



California Environmental Protection Agency

Mission: *To restore, protect and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality.*

Vision: *A California that enjoys a clean, healthy, sustainable environment that enhances the quality of life for current and future generations, and protects our diverse natural resources.*

INTRODUCTION

This document reports significant accomplishments of each of the boards and departments within the Cal/EPA family for the second six months of 2000. It also defines goals for the first six months of 2001.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that all interested parties – legislators and staff, environmental organizations, media, and industry – have a clear picture of where we have been and where we are going.

Future reports will be published shortly after the end of each six-month period so that we account for our activities and generate a dialogue regarding the direction Cal/EPA is taking.

Winston H. Hickox, Agency Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Fellow Californian:

The energy challenge facing California is real and affects all of us. Its potential to affect our environment is real as well, and that is one reason our immediate action is important.

In the long run, we will solve the problem of cleanly generating plentiful electricity. In the short term, the smartest and most environmentally sensible plan is conservation. That is why I am asking you to join me and millions of Californians in cutting our energy use.

California continues to experience electrical shortages. Early this year there were rolling blackouts. To reduce the risk of power outages, the most important action we can take is to use less energy.

The Governor and leaders of the California Legislature are working with utility companies, power suppliers and consumer groups to fashion long-term solutions for reliable and affordable electricity. The State has already implemented a program to reduce energy consumption by a minimum of ten percent (10%).

You have an important role at your workplace and in your home.

California has the power of nearly 35 million people. By reducing our electricity demand, we can reduce prices, avoid shortages and lower energy bills.

Here are easy ways to cut energy use at home:

- When using your furnace, turn your thermostat down to 68° F degrees or lower during the day, and 55° F at night. During air conditioning season, set the thermostat at 78° and, when the outside air cools, turn off the air conditioner and open the windows.
- Use lower washing temperatures and line dry clothes whenever you can. Take a short shower instead of a bath.
- Turn out lights in empty rooms. Cut the use of non-essential appliances. When not in use, turn off computers and other electronic equipment completely. Unplug electronic chargers when not in use (e.g., cell phone chargers).
- Refrigerators use one-sixth of a home's energy. Dusting coils and checking door seals can help save electricity. You can set the temperature as high as 38° without spoiling food.

At work:

- Minimize energy usage during the peak demand hours of 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (If possible shift high energy use tasks to non-peak hours.)
- As at home, set your thermostat to conserve energy.
- Turn off unneeded lights and equipment, especially in unused offices and conference rooms. Turn down other lighting when possible.
- Turn computers, copiers and other office equipment to low-power standby mode. Turn equipment off at the end of the workday.
- Use inkjet printers rather than laser printers to save up to 90 percent on printer energy costs. Use laptop computers if possible. Laptops use significantly less energy than typical desktop models.
- Buy ENERGY STARTM equipment, products, and lights.

Thank you for doing your part to conserve energy.

Sincerely,

Winston H. Hickox

Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary

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AIR RESOURCES BOARD

The Air Resources Board promotes and protects public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering the effects on the economy of the State.

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **MTBE phase-out.** The Board approved technical adjustments to Phase III gasoline regulations to provide refiners with flexibility as they continue moving toward the elimination of MTBE in California's gasoline by the end of 2002. The adjustments addressed specifics of ethanol blending and concerns of small refiners. California continues to await a decision from U.S. EPA on the request for a waiver from the Federal mandate requiring oxygenates in reformulated gasoline.
2. **ZEV mandate upheld.** The Board upheld the mandate requiring automakers to market at least four percent zero emission vehicles starting in 2003. The Board agreed to work with automakers to help bring down the price of ZEVs and increase ZEV penetration into California's vehicle fleet. In December, they approved a grant program that will provide incentives of up to \$9,000 for persons leasing or purchasing ZEVs.
3. **Emission reductions from school buses.** In December, the Board approved guidelines for implementing a program to replace older, high-polluting school buses with new, lower emitting buses or install PM retrofit devices on existing buses. The Governor and Legislature approved \$50 million in FY 2000-2001 for the school bus program.
4. **Diesel risk reduction plan passed.** The Board approved the diesel risk reduction plan to cut the public's exposure to toxic particulate matter (PM) from diesel engines by nearly 90 percent by 2020. As part of this effort, ARB held the first meeting of the Diesel Retrofit Advisory Committee, a group of 40 experts from around the world that will help identify the best technology to reduce diesel engine PM.
5. **Asbestos control strengthened.** In July the Board strengthened its air toxic control measure for asbestos by eliminating the use of asbestos-containing ultramafic rock for surfacing operations, such as road covering or landscaping. Asbestos has been known to cause lung disease. The Board's action eliminated the future use of all ultramafic rock where public exposure could occur.
6. **Control Technology Guidance for Stationary Internal Combustion Engines.** ARB staff continues to work with industry and other stakeholders in developing guidance on control technology for stationary internal combustion engines. A draft report will be prepared by early Spring 2001.

7. **Indoor Air Quality.** ARB continues to develop its indoor air quality program and expects to incorporate indoor air quality research into ongoing projects such as its Neighborhood Assessment Program (NAP) and the Children's Health Initiative.
8. **Children's Health Study.** An ARB-funded Children's Health Study showed that children in high-pollution areas were suffering up to a 10 percent reduction in the growth rate of their lungs. These were the most remarkable findings reported at the four-year mark of the 10-year study of more than 3,000 children from the fourth to twelfth grades in 12 California communities. The Board also identified six communities throughout the state to conduct increased monitoring to determine if air quality around schools and daycare centers is healthy for children, as required by law.
9. **California Fuel Cell Partnership.** On November 1 ARB participated in the grand opening of the California Fuel Cell Partnership's Sacramento headquarters. ARB has been an active member of the Partnership's efforts to put fuel cell cars and buses on the road in California between 2000 and 2003.
10. **Carl Moyer Program.** In November the Board passed modifications to strengthen the Carl Moyer diesel engine incentive program. The Carl Moyer Program has been a tremendous success, eliminating thousands of tons of smog-forming nitrogen oxides and toxic particulate matter from California's air by paying businesses and government agencies to reduce emissions from diesel engines below levels required in regulations and agreements.
11. **Not-to-Exceed (NTE) Test Requirements.** ARB adopted measures to extend 2002-04 consent decree emission requirements for heavy-duty diesel vehicles. A coalition of 13 other states has agreed to adopt these requirements, instead of weaker federal standards that will be in effect nationally in 2005-06.
12. **Worldwide Recognition.** ARB continues to be recognized as the world's leading air pollution control agency. This recognition manifests itself in the number of news media calls the Board receives from around the world and the number of foreign-government representatives who travel to California to meet with ARB officials. The ARB El Monte test lab recently conducted two half-day seminars entirely in Mandarin Chinese and another entirely in Spanish for foreign visitors.
13. **Rice Straw Burning.** The Board approved the conditional Rice Straw Burning regulations that require growers to document disease damage before they are allowed to burn rice stubble. Local government officials from the Sacramento Valley will meet on February 2nd regarding implementing the new requirements.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **ZEV Mandate.** The Board intends to retain the 2003 mandate requiring that major automakers market at least four percent zero emission vehicles. However, the Board will also make adjustments to the mandate to help lower the cost to consumers who wish to buy or lease ZEVs and help these non-polluting vehicles make a greater penetration into the California market.
2. **Diesel Risk Reduction Plan Implementation.** To implement the strategies outlined in the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan adopted by the Board in September, ARB over the next several years must adopt a dozen or more specific regulations and begin a statewide outreach effort. These efforts will begin in the first half of 2001.
3. **Fuel Cell Partnership.** ARB will continue its leadership role in the California Fuel Cell Partnership. Fuel cells are considered the next significant step to be made (beyond battery electric vehicles) to bring to California motor vehicles that are free of harmful air emissions.
4. **MTBE Phase-Out.** ARB staff throughout 2001 will continue working with the refining industry to assure a smooth transition, with as little price impact as possible, to MTBE-free gasoline.
5. **Marine Inboard Engines.** ARB will look at new regulations to reduce harmful air emissions from gasoline-powered inboard boat engines.
6. **Children's Health Initiative.** ARB staff will continue to study the impact of air pollution on the health of children throughout 2001 in the Los Angeles area and in the San Joaquin Valley.
7. **School Bus Program.** ARB will implement Governor Davis' \$50 million dollar program to bring cleaner school buses to the state.

DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) regulates the use of pesticides to protect human health and the environment.

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Toxic Air Contaminants.** DPR adopted regulations to add methyl parathion to the toxic air contaminant list on September 29, 2000. DPR released and received comments on the draft risk assessment for molinate and also released the draft risk assessment for chlorpyrifos. The risk assessment for azinphos-methyl was forwarded to the Scientific Review Panel for their consideration. The Scientific Review Panel and DPR sponsored a workshop on toxicological issues for organophosphate pesticides.
2. **Pesticide Risk Characterization/Exposure Assessments Under the Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984 (SB 950).** DPR released three risk assessments (atrazine, chlorpyrifos, and thiabendazole) for peer review and completed risk assessments for three active ingredients (methyl bromide, metam sodium, and methylisothiocyanate).
3. **Exposure Guidance Document.** Staff continued to revise the document, *Guidance for the Preparation of Human Pesticide Exposure Assessment Documents (HS-1612)*. This document contains, among other things, default physiological factors as well as protective factors for clothing, personal protective equipment, engineering controls and activity patterns.
4. **California Pesticide Illness Surveillance Data Enhancement Project.** Staff neared completion of this project and expect to finalize it in the first half of 2001. The project involves collecting information from past records of poison control, hospitalizations and death certificates, and comparing that information to the data collected by PISP during the same period (1994-1996). This comparison is intended to identify any absences or omissions in the data collected under PISP.
5. **Study of Dislodgeable Foliar Residue: Comparison of Reduced-Volume and Conventional Applications.** This study compares residue dissipation and decay following applications by reduced-volume and conventional application equipment. The concentrations of pesticides in spray mixes are higher using reduced-volume application techniques, possibly affecting field worker exposure. The study was completed and the

report is under final internal review. The final report is expected to be release in the first half of 2001.

6. **A Profile of Dislodgeable Pesticide Residues on Crop Foliage at Field Re-entry, 1995-1999.** DPR continues to develop its report on the residues found at the time of legal re-entry, which it expects to complete in the first half of 2001. The data represent an index of the potential for field worker exposure.

7. **Methyl Bromide.** DPR completed work on two important uses of methyl bromide:

- **Field Fumigation Regulations.** DPR adopted many of the methyl bromide "suggested permit conditions" into regulation. The final regulations includes new provisions, including:
 - Submission of a worksite plan to the county agricultural commissioner prior to fumigation
 - Notification to neighboring property operators
 - Extra protection for children in schools
 - Establishment of minimum buffer zones
 - New limits on work hours for fumigation employees.

In response to comments received, a second modification to the proposed regulations was released for public comment on August 10, 2000. DPR filed the final rulemaking package with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on October 31, 2000.

- **Structure Fumigation Regulations.** DPR adopted regulations, effective on September 14, 2000, that imposed restrictions of methyl bromide fumigations for structures. The regulations include more stringent requirements for tarpaulin use and for the aeration of fumigated structures, and require the maintenance of a buffer area between fumigated structures and the public.

8. **Drift Control Mitigation and Enforcement.** In September 2000, DPR issued a revision of its *Pesticide Drift Enforcement Policy*.

9. **Metam Sodium and Potassium N-methyldithiocarbamate Restrictions.** DPR distributed recommendations to county agricultural commissioners to use as a reference when issuing pesticide use permits for metam sodium and potassium N-methyldithiocarbamate to mitigate off-site movement of methyl isothiocyanate(MITC). Recommendations for irrigation equipment, field monitoring, post-application field monitoring, buffer zones, and minimum specifications for application equipment are included.

10. **County Program Oversight.** Beginning in July 2000, DPR began to negotiate work plans with county agricultural commissioners to establish a system of better county accountability for state and local priorities and to more closely link state and local pesticide regulatory activities. DPR and county agricultural commissioners are pursuing this new relationship based on the results of a joint quality improvement initiative.
11. **Pesticide Use Reporting.** DPR released a preliminary draft of the 1999 Pesticide Use Report (PUR) in September 2000. The *Summary of Pesticide Use Report Data 1999* summarizes the total reported use of each pesticide active ingredient on each crop or site in California in 1999. This report also provides an overview of the trends in use from 1991 to 1999 for pesticides in several categories, including reproductive toxins, carcinogens, cholinesterase inhibitors, ground water contaminant, toxic air contaminants, oils, reduced-risk pesticides, and biopesticides. DPR also created a new program that loads and error-checks the PUR data it receives. This program improves error checking and automates data loading and processing.
12. **Volatile Organic Compound Emission Inventory.** DPR substituted measured values of volatile organic compound (VOCs) emissions for many pesticides that were previously assigned default emission values. The use of actual measurements will improve the accuracy of the estimation of pesticide VOC emissions and will help in analyzing VOC emissions from agricultural and commercial structural pesticides for the years 1990 through 1999.
13. **Groundwater Regulations.** Currently, DPR imposes pesticide restrictions if pesticides are detected in groundwater. DPR has developed regulations designed to prevent contamination by identifying sensitive areas (based on weather and soils data) and regulating pesticide use in those areas. DPR received comments at workshops and stakeholder meetings, and will continue to modify and propose regulations for public review in the first half of 2001.
14. **Total Maximum Daily Load Requirements.** DPR continued to work with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards to define monitoring priorities. In addition:
 - **Mitigation Measures.** DPR worked with growers and grower groups to document the validity of mitigation measures for the control of pesticides after application.
 - **Pesticide Source Identification.** DPR established contract work aimed at identifying pesticide sources in urban creeks and quantifying loading in key waterways.

- **Rice Pesticide Monitoring Program.** DPR completed the Rice Pesticide Monitoring Program's Triennial Report for Rice in November 2000.
 - **Surface Water Database.** The surface water database was released to the public on both CD-ROM and on the Internet. This database presents the results of pesticide-related surface water sampling studies performed throughout the State.
15. **Sacramento River Watershed Program.** In 1998, the Sacramento River Watershed Program stakeholders agreed that the presence of organophosphate pesticides in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers should be reduced in order to protect aquatic resources, and recommended the development of an organophosphate pesticide management plan. In progress toward this goal and recommendation, DPR developed a monitoring plan for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers for the winter of 2000-2001.
16. **Lompoc Air Monitoring.** DPR completed pesticide air monitoring activities in Lompoc. Preliminary results are to be presented to the Lompoc Interagency Workgroup on January 18, 2001.
17. **Integrated Pest Management (IPM).**
- **Innovator Awards.** Eight IPM Innovator awards were presented in November 2000, out of 30 nominations received. The IPM Innovator Program has identified 63 groups and organizations that are providing leadership in the development of economical reduced-risk pest management systems in California. The Program helps these groups to network and increase the number of growers adopting reduced-risk practices.
 - **School IPM Programs.** DPR is charged with carrying out the mandates of AB 2260, the Healthy Schools Act of 2000. DPR has begun a variety of activities to implement AB 2260:
 - › DPR has identified persons responsible for pest management decisions for each of the 1,046 school districts in California to participate in a survey of current IPM practices at schools.
 - › DPR is actively participating with other California Environmental Protection Agency departments, boards, and offices and with the California Department of Education to integrate the school IPM effort into related efforts.
 - › A customized guidebook for IPM in California Schools is in development, as is an "IPM in Schools" Web site.

18. **Internet-Based Pesticide Resource Directory Project.** DPR unveiled its internet-based centralized pesticide resource directory that provides 24/7 access to pesticide information. This directory improves access to pesticide resources and provides pesticide data and registration action information that is not otherwise available.
19. **E-Government and Business Function Initiative.**
- **Enforcement and Compliance Web Page.** DPR's Pesticide Enforcement Branch rolled out the first phase of its new Enforcement and Compliance Web Page. The Web Page provides basic information to the counties and the public, including current laws and regulations, policies, procedural documents, state/county programs, resources, and other reports. This Web Page will continue to evolve over the next year.
 - **Business Process Group.** In July of 2000, the Pesticide Registration Branch created the "Business Process Group," composed of industry representatives and Pesticide Registration Branch staff. This group will develop changes in pesticide registration processes to produce faster decisions on licensing new and amended pesticide products.
20. **Information Technology.** DPR's Information Technology Branch has enabled over 100 DPR staff to access department information resources remotely. This new technology solution takes advantage of state-of-the-art security measures and makes optimal use of information technology resources.
21. **California/Mexico Border Project.**
- **Pesticide Integrated Environmental Border Project.** In October, DPR submitted a report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on tracking produce from Mexico found to contain residues of illegal pesticides. This completed an amendment to the Pesticide Integrated Environmental Border Project granted by U.S. EPA. The study provides recommendations for locating customs information and for developing a communication protocol with Sanidad Vegetal, a division of Secretaria de Agricultura Ganaderia y Desarrollo Rural (SAGAR).
 - **California-Baja California Strategic Environmental Plan.** DPR cooperated with Cal/EPA's Border Affairs Unit in the development of the California-Baja California Strategic Environmental Plan. The plan includes a program for pesticide episode response in the border area as well as goals; such as developing mitigation measures to reduce contamination of surface water and enhancing integrated pest management (IPM) grants in the border area.

- **Border Information Exchange.** In August 2000, the Border Information Exchange implemented an inspector exchange between the U.S. member states and SAGAR. Eight Mexican inspectors visited the border states (two per state) for a one-week period. The inspectors participated in numerous inspections and visits to aerial and ground applicators, pesticide dealers, field workers, county agricultural commissioners, and packing sheds. This was followed in October 2000 by a visit of U.S. inspectors to Central Mexico to observe similar sites and the Mexican inspection process. A planning meeting was held in McAllen, Texas, on November 9, 2000, for the Border Exchange Project. U.S. and Mexican members met to identify and prioritize projects for the coming year.
22. **Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Insecticide Monitoring.** DPR's Environmental Monitoring Branch completed monitoring carbaryl applications targeting the glassy-winged sharpshooter in urban areas. Monitoring was conducted in Tulare, Fresno, Sacramento, Contra Costa, and Butte Counties. Matrices monitored included tank mixture, air, foliage, surface water (ponds, creeks, and runoff water), fish tissues, and backyard fruits. Monitoring results indicate that applications were generally being conducted safely, with no adverse environmental impact.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Business Process Reengineering.** The Department is under contract with NewPoint Group, a consulting firm assisting with business process reengineering and E-Government strategy engagement. By May 2001, DPR will have an action plan and will have implemented some "early wins" on E-Government -- moving the Department's transactions with its various customers to the Internet. This project will be the first step in meeting the provisions of Governor Gray Davis' Executive Order D-00-17 relative to E-Government and the improvement of business processes and moving selected business processes to the Internet.
2. **E-Government.** In keeping with Governor Gray Davis' strategy for an E-Business Portal, DPR is launching a project in concert with the Department of General Service's Enterprise Business Office. This project will create a web-based "Intent to Operate" system to help licensees prepare for county registration through a single transaction.

3. **Pesticide Use Report Program Review.** DPR will convene an External PUR Work Group as a means to obtain stakeholder input into business and procedural issues and technology design proposals. The work groups will focus on the pesticide use reporting and related systems (i.e., restricted material permit, operator identification, county registrations, data sharing across government and industry, etc.).
4. **Toxic Air Contaminants.** This year DPR will bring three risk assessment documents before the Scientific Review Panel: molinate, azinphos methyl, and chlorpyrifos. DPR will receive findings from the Scientific Review Panel on the metam sodium/MITC document. The receipt of these findings will initiate rulemaking to add MITC to the toxic air contaminant list.
5. **Pesticide Risk Characterization/Exposure Assessments under the Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984 (SB 950).** DPR will complete risk characterization documents for acephate, carbaryl, carbofuran, diazinon, endosulfan, mancozeb, and maneb.
6. **Lompoc Air Monitoring.** In 2001, DPR will release the preliminary monitoring results. DPR will continue method-development work to sample and analyze for five to ten additional pesticides.
7. **Designation Dazomet and Potassium N-methyldithiocarbamate as Restricted Materials.** DPR filed a finding of emergency to amend Title 3 California Code of Regulations (3 CCR) sections 6400 to designate dazomet and potassium N-methyldithiocarbamate as restricted materials. Dazomet and potassium N-methyldithiocarbamate degrade to form MITC, recently designated a toxic air contaminant. These products are necessary due to the impending phase-out of methyl bromide. DPR anticipates formally adopting these regulations in 2001.
8. **Bioassessment.** DPR will initiate a program for the bioassessment of pesticide residues in the San Joaquin River and the Sacramento-San Francisco Bay Delta. This program will be coordinated with similar programs in other State and local agencies.
9. **Ground Water Regulations.** DPR will formally notice new ground water protection regulations in early 2001 and will develop a companion implementation plan for the proposed regulations. The regulations are intended to transform the program into a preventative one, while the implementation plan will serve as a training guide for both pesticide users and regulatory staff.

10. **Farm Worker's Right to Know.** DPR is evaluating the adequacy of the current system for notifying farm workers of pesticide applications and hazards in the workplace. DPR met with worker advocates to discuss worker notification of pesticide applications, posting warning signs around crops that were treated with pesticides, and hazard communication requirements to determine whether changes should be made. DPR will prepare recommendations on program changes, if needed, after input is received from all stakeholders.
11. **Pest Management Grants and Alliances.** DPR will award grants to proposals submitted in 2000 to promote increased adoption of reduced-risk practices in agricultural and urban settings. Staff will also prepare Requests For Proposals for pest management grants and alliances for the 2001/02 fiscal year.
12. **School Integrated Pest Management (IPM).** DPR staff will develop a "School IPM" Web site and basic fact sheets on program and technical materials for inclusion in the IPM guidebook. Staff will develop criteria to identify least-hazardous pest control practices and survey school districts for baseline pest management practices. In addition, development will begin on a reporting form for licensed pest control businesses, and the PUR will be modified to accommodate school IPM data.
13. **Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Insecticide Monitoring.** DPR's Environmental Monitoring Branch will continue to monitor insecticide applications to new glassy-winged sharpshooter infestations in urban areas. DPR will also monitor for carbaryl and imidacloprid residues in various environmental matrices at the proposed second application in Brentwood.
14. **Indian Basketweavers Herbicide Monitoring Project.** DPR's Environmental Monitoring Branch will compile and publish findings on this three-year collaborative study with California tribes and the U.S. Forest Service. The study is designed to address concerns of the tribal people regarding herbicide applications in the Lassen, El Dorado, Sierra, and Stanislaus National Forests.
15. **Red Imported Fire Ant Insecticide Monitoring Project.** DPR's Environmental Monitoring Branch will monitor ground water and continue monthly surface water sampling in Orange County. Emphasis will be placed on implementing and evaluating insecticide runoff mitigation measures in collaboration with the University of California Cooperative Extension, ornamental nursery industry, and Regional Water Quality Control Board.
16. **Bee Protection.** DPR proposes to amend regulations pertaining to bee protection to remove outdated information and requirements. This will allow

for consistency with new federal pesticide labeling requirements regarding residual toxicity data for those pesticide applications near areas where bees may forage.

17. **Fumigants.** Additional restrictions will be proposed for long-term (subchronic and chronic) exposure to methyl bromide. Permit guidance will be issued to county agricultural commissioners to ensure people are not exposed to unsafe levels of metam sodium. A formal risk assessment will begin for chloropicrin.

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) regulates hazardous waste facilities and oversees the cleanup of hazardous waste sites in California. Protection of public health and the environment is the focus of all DTSC programs, and the Department's permitting, site cleanup, pollution prevention, environmental technology certification, public participation and education activities are driven by this commitment.

Accomplishments during the Second Half of 2000

1. **Brownfields** – Cleanup Loans and Environmental Assistance to Neighborhoods (CLEAN) Program. Governor Davis signed SB 667 on September 29, 2000. The provisions of SB 667 provide the guidelines for the CLEAN Program and how DTSC is to use the \$85 million that was appropriated in the 2000/01 Budget Act. The CLEAN Program provides low-interest loans to investigate and clean up hazardous materials at underutilized urban properties. DTSC drafted emergency regulations and loan application forms, met with stakeholders, began marketing and outreach efforts, and had discussions with other state agencies regarding partnerships to promote and administer the program.
2. **California-Mexico Border Pollution Initiatives.** DTSC participated in numerous meetings between representatives of Border States, the Mexican Federal Environmental Enforcement Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Training and workshops have been held to provide information regarding Mexican, U.S. and California regulations and requirements for import and export of hazardous waste.
3. **Hazardous Waste Manifesting/Hazardous Waste Tracking System (HWTS).** DTSC completed the Request for Proposal to develop and implement an updated Internet-based system for reporting and tracking hazardous waste shipments, and with the Request for Proposal solicited bids. DTSC received and evaluated five different proposals. The selected proposal will provide an Internet-based hazardous waste manifesting system, electronic manifest data file transfer capabilities, updated generator, transporter, and facility information tracking, automated processing of manifest data, including correction processes, a data warehouse for information storage, standardized reports, and a reporting utility. The Department of General Services' Office of Procurement has published the Intent to Award Notification and the Feasibility Study Report has been completed and submitted to the Department of Information Technology for review.
4. **Enforcement.** DTSC enforcement activities included:

- **Phibro-Tech, Incorporated (PTI).** A schedule for compliance on consent was issued to PTI for exceeding its permitted hazardous waste storage capacity and for storing wastes in unauthorized areas at its Santa Fe Springs facility. The facility is operating under the compliance schedule, which became effective in July 2000. DTSC is proceeding with an enforcement action in response to the violations.
 - **AAD Distribution and Dry Cleaning Services.** DTSC has conducted extensive surveillance and enforcement activities at the facility's Vernon location and at several other locations in California where the company stored hazardous wastes illegally. In November 2000, DTSC issued a permit revocation, temporarily suspending the company's hazardous waste permit for storage and treatment of hazardous waste generated in dry cleaning operations.
 - **American Recovery, Incorporated (ARI) and A-American Environmental (AAE).** An enforcement order was issued to ARI and AAE July 2000. AAE was cited for eight violations of the Hazardous Waste Control Law.
 - **Task Force Support and Special Investigations Branch.** The branch provided technical support to more than 40 environmental task forces throughout the state resulting in six criminal referrals. Of the 36 'complex cases' referred to the branch, two were referred to the Attorney General for prosecution, seven were reclassified, five were investigated and closed, a permanent injunction was ordered for one and another was terminated by administrative order. The Branch also supported several investigations of the Cal/EPA cross-media enforcement unit, including one referral to the local district attorney for prosecution.
5. **Pollution Prevention.** The work plan required by SB 1916 of 1998 was completed and approved by the Governor's Office targeting Vehicle Service and Repair for the small business sector, and Petroleum Refineries for the large business sector. DTSC is now implementing the plans. The pollution prevention program explores partnerships under the Vehicle Service and Repair Industry with Ford, Toyota, NAPA Auto Parts, AAA, and others.
 6. **Financial Responsibility of Hazardous Waste Facilities.** DTSC continues to evaluate the financial assurances provided by hazardous waste facilities to ensure that sufficient financial resources exist to close the facilities and clean up any hazardous wastes. DTSC has been monitoring the bankruptcy proceedings of Safety-Kleen, a corporation that operates several hazardous waste facilities in California.
 7. **Analogous Project 2000.** DTSC and U.S. EPA have been conducting environmental compliance audits, otherwise known as the Analogous Project, at numerous high-priority facilities undergoing corrective action. The

Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) and DTSC's Site Mitigation Program (SMP) are overseeing activities at these facilities. The objectives of the 2000 Analogous reviews have changed to include the Environmental Indicator (EI) status of the facilities. The new goals include:

- Documents are available in electronic formats, including the Internet.
 - Develop and implement recommendations regarding the EI status of facilities and apprise management of the likelihood of the facilities meeting the national GPRA goals.
 - Document new RCRA-analogous activities into the national RCRA Information System (RCRIS) database.
 - Develop and implement recommendations regarding old and new non-analogous activities.
 - Evaluate the cleanup activities to ensure RCRA corrective action program objectives are met.
8. **Universal Waste Rule.** The California Universal Waste Rule is proceeding towards adoption of permanent regulations. The final regulation package was submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in December for a 45-day public review. The emergency regulations will be effective until early March 2001.
 9. **Data Management Project.** Data has been collected, organized and entered into a database program as the first step in the development of a comprehensive database of permitted facilities and potentially responsible parties.
 10. **Naturally Occurring Asbestos.** DTSC has been working on the U.S.EPA-funded Garden Valley Discovery project whose goal is to identify potential sources of naturally occurring asbestos that could release fibers into the air. The Air Resources Board, working in cooperation with DTSC, conducted air monitoring at three locations in the community and at the two quarries. These results are being analyzed.
 11. **Complaint Hotline.** DTSC's Statewide Compliance Division completed the transition of the Complaint Hotline calls from the Task Force Support and Special Investigations Branch. Approximately fifteen complaint calls are received daily.
 12. **Emergency Response Program.** Emergency removal actions were completed at 980 drug labs and 65 other sites throughout the State. A major removal action at Gibson Environmental in Bakersfield to empty and demolish several large waste oil storage tanks is scheduled for completion in early 2001.

13. **State Superfund Program.** Among the most notable accomplishments for DTSC's State Superfund Program were:

- **Casmalia Resources Facility.** Technical work continues to focus on the construction of caps for the five landfill units at this former hazardous waste landfill. Corrective work on one cap continues and the final designs for the other caps are nearing completion.
- **Stringfellow Acid Pits.** Comments have been received on the draft Supplemental Feasibility Study Report that will include a recommended plan for remediation of the site. U.S. EPA will incorporate this recommended plan into a final Record of Decision (ROD 5).
- **Westley Tire Fire.** DTSC conducted an initial characterization of soils, burned tire debris, and groundwater, and a geophysical survey to determine the extent of buried tires and debris. DTSC provided oversight of removal of oil-contaminated sludge from one of the site ponds and conducted its own removal of the same type of contaminant in two other ponds. A public meeting and elected officials briefing were provided for the removal actions. Concurrently, DTSC reached a partial settlement with one potentially responsible party and a full settlement with another, and provided assistance to other state agencies involved in the cleanup activities.

14. **Hazardous Waste Facility Permitting.**

- **Sierra Army Depot.** Four public hearings have been held in Nevada and California for the Sierra Army Depot permit and draft Environmental Impact Report. A draft response package to comments received through oral testimonies and written comments has been released. A 30-day ambient monitoring program has been completed. The data will be used as a tool to complete the permit and EIR process.

DTSC staff are also working with the Paiute Indian Reservation and the State of Nevada during the completion of the permit process. Nevada officials have invited DTSC staff to a meeting with Army officials in January to discuss the strategies for the treatment of the munitions on site.

- **Variances.** Seven variances have been issued that allow the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to excavate, stockpile, transport, and reuse contaminated soil. The CalTrans activities will take place on state-owned highway rights-of-way within the following seven CalTrans Districts: District 4 (San Francisco Bay Area), District 6 (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, and Tulare Counties), Districts 7, 8, and 12 (Los Angeles Basin), and District 11 (San

Diego metropolitan area). Each variance was issued for a term of five years. A negative declaration under CEQA was developed and approved for these projects.

15. **Certification of Environmental Technologies.** DTSC has evaluated and certified the performance of hazardous waste related environmental technologies.

- **DTSC certifications during the last six months:**
 - › **Benthic Flux Sampling Device.** Developed by the U.S. Navy, this is a site characterization technology for determining the transfer rate of metals from contaminated sediments into the sensitive waters of bays and estuaries.
 - › **Site Characterization and Analysis Penetrometer System (SCAPS) Hydrosparge Sensor.** This equipment provides in-situ, real-time analyses of volatile organic compounds in groundwater.
 - › **SCAPS Thermal Desorption Sensor.** This equipment provides in-situ real-time analyses of volatile organic compounds in subsurface soils to depths of up to 80 or more feet.
 - › **Fluorometer.** This equipment continuously measures petroleum-derived pollutants.
 - › **Formaldehyde Destruction.** This is a technology that chemically destroys formaldehyde in hospital and lab wastes.
- **Interstate Technology and Regulatory Cooperation.** A forum that offers state regulators the ability to collectively learn about new and innovative environmental technologies. The ITRC Work Group now includes 38 states as members. Activities of DTSC staff in the ITRC include:
 - › **In Situ Bioremediation Task Group.** DTSC staff led ITRC's In Situ Bioremediation Task Group and filled the roles of state engagement coordinator and state point of contact for California.
 - › **Training.** Development and implementation of 12 Internet-based training sessions, reaching 2,300 students in 17 countries and 49 states. Training modules allow ITRC to offer Internet-based training 2 to 3 times monthly. Two classroom-style training classes for bioremediation and phytoremediation are in development as well.

16. **Public Participation.** A significant effort was made to increase the level of public outreach during the past six months due to the expansion of the public participation program and a renewed focus to provide more information to communities. More than 350,000 community members and interested parties were informed about the DTSC's activities resulting in the following achievements:
- Tripling the number of public meetings.
 - Doubling the number of fact sheets and public notices.
 - A 70 percent increase of Restoration Advisory Board meetings at closing military installations.
 - Doubling the number of public participation plans.
17. **Environmental Justice.** DTSC's environmental justice working group developed a department policy and designed specific elements for program implementation including:
- Translation services for outreach documents including fact sheets, public notices and background documents.
 - A Web site link to federal and state environmental justice Internet resources.
 - Training for department employees.
18. **Public Health Goals.** Under contract to OEHHA, DTSC completed public health goals (PHGs) for 1,1 dichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane and cis 1,2-dichloroethylene.
19. **Schoolsite Assessments.** DTSC completed the review and evaluation of 240 Phase I Environmental Assessment reports and 26 Preliminary Endangerment reports on properties being considered for new school construction. DTSC also provided regulatory oversight for removal actions that were completed at four potential school sites.

Priorities for the First Half Of 2001

1. **Enforcement.** DTSC will focus on the following enforcement activities:
 - **Administrative Penalty Assessment Regulations.** DTSC will adopt regulations that govern the assessment of penalties in administrative enforcement actions.
 - **RCRA-Equivalent Financial Assurance Regulations.** DTSC will adopt regulations that allow California to maintain its Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) authorization for financial responsibility.
 - **Financial Assurance Evaluations.** DTSC will continue to evaluate financial assurance instruments used by hazardous waste facilities to verify adequate coverage for third party liability, as well as adequate financial resources to cover closure and post-closure costs.
 - **Enforcement initiatives.** DTSC will continue to assess specific industrial sectors to identify violations and ensure compliance.
 - **California-Mexico Border.** DTSC will continue its efforts with Cal/EPA, U.S.EPA and other agencies to develop a collaborative U.S./Mexico plan that addresses environmental issues in and near communities along the border.
2. **Capacity Assessment and Data Management.** DTSC will develop a comprehensive hazardous waste management facilities data system including detailed information on facilities' capacity and their ability to meet the current and projected waste management needs. This database will enable the DTSC to continuously assess the State's needs and support legislative, industrial, State and local government efforts to meet them.
3. **Post-closure Permitting.** DTSC will focus on the issuance of post-closure permits to closed hazardous waste facilities. Many of the facilities that require post-closure permits began operations before the current protective siting, design, treatment, and operation standards were promulgated. They typically include unlined units, contain insufficiently identified wastes, are located in seismically sensitive areas and/or have the potential to degrade public water supplies. Post-closure permit issuance will provide for continuous financial assurance, maintenance, and monitoring to prevent undesirable impacts of these substandard facilities.

4. **Naturally Occurring Asbestos.** In the next six months, DTSC expects to receive the results from the Garden Valley sampling efforts, compile a summary report and present results to the Garden Valley community through fact sheets and public meetings. Using funds from U.S.EPA, air monitoring will continue within the community to collect information on winter, spring and summer conditions. DTSC staff will continue to participate in coordination meetings and review information gained from national studies on investigating releases, assessing exposure and evaluating risk from naturally occurring asbestos releases.
5. **Brownfields.** DTSC anticipates accomplishing the following Brownfield projects in the next six months:
 - **Hercules Properties.** A prospective purchaser agreement will be completed with the Bixby Company for a 167-acre former state Superfund site in Hercules, Contra Costa County. The proposed mixed use development will generate approximately \$2 million per year of property taxes, adding 207 single-family housing units and 840 multi-family home and live/work units which will reduce Hercules' housing demand. The development will also include office and commercial/retail buildings.
 - **Agnews West Development.** Remediation of the approximately 177-acre Agnews West site will be completed in accordance with the two approved final remedial action plans and the two voluntary cleanup agreements for the site. The Agnews West site is owned by the state. Following remediation, the site will be developed into single and multi-family residences, a school, park, hotel, fire station, police substation, public library, day care facility, electric substation, offices, research and development facilities, private and non-profit facilities, and commercial and mixed use facilities.
 - **Cleanup Loans and Environmental Assistance to Neighborhoods (CLEAN) Program.** DTSC anticipates beginning the adoption process for the permanent regulations, continuing marketing and outreach efforts, finalizing arrangements to administer the program, and begin accepting applications and issuing loans.
 - **California Screening Levels.** To assist in the assessment and potential development of brownfield sites as well as other contaminated properties, DTSC will work to develop draft levels for lead, DDT and total petroleum hydrocarbons (three commonly encountered contaminants). These are to be used as levels of contamination in soils that will require some type of cleanup action, and below which no action will be required to develop the site.

6. **Constituency Outreach Campaign.** DTSC will target audiences impacted by the DTSC's activities, such as parents and teachers organizations, non-profits, industry and business groups, State and federal agencies and academic institutions. The goal is to create a two-way information flow between DTSC and the constituencies it serves. Initial implementation of the campaign involves:
 - Reorganization of DTSC's educational program.
 - Department-wide update of educational materials, fact sheets, and background documents.
 - Staff recruitment and resource development to upgrade outreach materials and provide more information to educators, community groups, industry and other public interest groups.
 - Enhanced efforts to coordinate more effectively with academic institutions to provide information resources and collateral products.
7. **Schoolsite Assessment.** DTSC anticipates completing additional guidance for new school properties including guidance on assessment for radon, naturally occurring asbestos, natural oil fields and former dairy farms. In addition, DTSC will continue to review and evaluate Phase I Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Endangerment reports.
8. **Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program.** DTSC conducts one of the twelve pilots chosen by the U.S.EPA to test and verify the performance of environmental technologies. During the next six months, DTSC will be completing its evaluation for national verification a number of innovative technologies that generate less waste and address significant environmental management concerns.
9. **Petroleum Refinery Pollution Prevention Project.** DTSC will develop a facility profile that assesses the 'environmental footprint' for each refinery in the state. This effort will require the collection of site specific information from various Cal/EPA boards and departments and publicly available facility production information. The profile will be developed for 22 refineries in the state.
10. **Data Management Project.** DTSC Permitting Division staff will continue to develop a consolidated database system of multiple, linked database files for essential facility status information. DTSC anticipates issuing a formal Request for Proposals in early 2001.

11. **Hazardous Waste Manifesting/Hazardous Waste Tracking System (HWTS).** Complete Business Systems, Incorporated (CBSI) has been chosen as the implementation contractor for the HWTS. DTSC expects to sign the contract in February 2001, with the development starting immediately thereafter. CBSI has proposed an aggressive development timeline with a projected system completion date in late August 2001. DTSC will also be working with CBSI and U.S.EPA during implementation to take advantage of system expansion opportunities in DTSC's Permit Processing and Enforcement Tracking areas, as funding permits.
12. **Internet Web Site.** DTSC's Internet Web site development remains a goal for the first half of 2001. DTSC will implement the structural guidelines developed by the Governor's Office.

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The six-member California Integrated Waste Management Board is responsible for protecting the public's health and safety and the environment through management of the estimated 56 million tons of solid waste generated in California each year.

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Strategic Planning.** The Board developed a structure and process for updating the 1997 Strategic Plan, and has scheduled a public workshop for stakeholder input in mid-February 2001.
2. **Facility Compliance Loan Program:** The Budget Act of 1999 authorized \$1.44 million and the FY 2000/2001 Budget Bill included an additional \$1.44 million for interest-free loans to assist owners and/or operators of solid waste facilities with environmental compliance. In June of 2000, staff sent a Notice of Funding Availability to approximately 1,500 interested parties, including LEAs, landfill operators, landowners, and local governments. The FCLP received fourteen applications requesting funds amounting to over \$5 million. The Loan Program Review Panel members completed analysis of the loan applications and provided scores using the Board-approved FCLP Scoring Criteria. Five of the fourteen applications were disqualified as unable to meet the basic criteria of the program. The remaining nine applications request a total of over \$4 million.

At the December 12, 2000 Board meeting, loans were approved for the following projects (for a total of approximately \$1.09 million):

- Black Butte Landfill
- Tehama County/Red Bluff Sanitary Landfill
- City of Santa Cruz Sanitary Landfill

The remaining five applications will be considered at the Board's January 23, 2001 meeting.

3. **Closed Illegal and Abandoned (CIA) Site Program.** The CIA Site Enforcement Program is being implemented as approved. This program is designed to enhance the identification, assessment, enforcement, and cleanup of CIA sites.
4. **Interactive Permit Toolbox.** Staff has accomplished the following activities in the development of an on-line, interactive permitting tool to assist

stakeholders who are applying for or processing a Solid Waste Facility Permit:

- Successful presentation of permit toolbox model at LEA Roundtables and LEA Conference.
 - Completion of partial Web site for LEA trial at LEA Conference Web-demo booth.
 - Finalized Web site file directory structure, and menu layout structure.
5. **Sustainable Building.** Governor Davis signed Executive Order D-16-00 on August 2, 2000 that established a sustainable building goal to site, design, deconstruct, construct, renovate, operate and maintain buildings that are models of energy, water and materials efficiency, while providing healthy, productive and comfortable indoor environments and long-term benefits. The Green Building Task Force is spearheading efforts to customize the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system for state construction. Also, the Board joined the Collaborative for High Performance Schools and participated in efforts that received one of the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards.
6. **Buy-Recycled Campaign:** At the June 20-21, 2000 meeting the Board decided not to award a contract for the proposed public awareness campaign. This decision was reached as a result of last-minute changes in the FY 2000-01 budget that eliminated funding flexibility that would have allowed the Board to allocate additional funding to the proposed contract for advertising in successive years.
7. **Waste Tire Program.**
- **SB 876 (Escutia).** The Governor, on September 29, 2000, signed SB 876, which restructures the Board's waste tire management program and increases the fee from \$0.25 to \$1.00 per tire.
 - **Filbin Tire Site.** To date, the Board's contractor has removed over 15,000 tons of tires and debris material from the Filbin Tire Site in Westley. This includes 4731 tons of partially burned tires and other residue removed since August. DTSC and MELP and its contractor have removed another 10,000 tons of contaminated soil and oily residue from Ponds #1, 3, and 4. Winterization of the site was completed; grading roads and drainage, strengthening pond walls, and creating storm water diversion and holding capacity. The Board has expended over \$3 million to date on this site.
 - **Royster Tire Fire Site in Tracy.** The Board approved expenditure of up to \$364,000. The Board's contractor, NORCAL, is quenching the last

smoldering pockets of burning tires. Testing and site characterization work will determine the extent of contamination.

8. **State Agency Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMP).** AB 75 (Strom-Martin) requires a 25 percent reduction in State government waste sent to landfills by January 1, 2002 and 50 percent by January 1, 2004, and the development of a plan (IWMP) explaining how this will be achieved. The Board's primary focus in the implementation of AB 75 has been on the review and approval of the IWMPs submitted by State agencies, CSU colleges, and community colleges. Approximately 430 plans have been received as of late 2000. To date, one hundred and fifty plans have been evaluated and approved by the Board.
9. **Biennial Review of Jurisdictions' Progress in Implementing Diversion Programs.** At least every two years the Board reviews the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) and Household Hazardous Waste Management Element (HHWE) of each jurisdiction's Integrated Waste Management Plan. Sixty-five jurisdictions that failed to implement their 1995/1996 SRRE and/or HHWE were put on compliance schedules in 1999 to implement those elements. By the end of December 2000, 25 of the jurisdictions had met the requirements of their compliance schedules, and the Board had completed and approved 396 of the 448 1997/1998 biennial reviews.
10. **Integrated Education Strategy.** The Board developed and began implementation of a nationally acclaimed curriculum and education program.
 - **Web Site and Curriculum Development.** Through a unified and coordinated effort, the Board has further developed the interactive Web site for the Closing the Loop (CTL) elementary curriculum. Story decision lists and activities, flow diagrams and script have been completed. CTL and Earth Resources samplers have been completed, providing sample lessons for the curricula. Samplers are used for marketing purposes, and are also placed on the Board's Web site to be available to teachers. Documents that correlate each lesson to the new standards for language arts, math, science, and social studies, showing teachers that they can meet the new standards using the Board's curricula, have also been completed.
 - **Border Efforts.** Board staff began work with contacts in Mexico. Water education, hazardous and household hazardous waste, and pollution prevention were identified as topics of greatest importance. Board staff has compiled an anthology of lessons that will include these topics, with materials to be translated into Spanish.

11. **State of Landfills Study.** The Board began the study process by initiating an outreach effort to alert and educate RWQCBs, Air Districts, LEAs, and MSW landfill owners/operators about the purpose of the pending study and the need for their cooperation.

Board staff developed a general press release for distribution by the study's contractor, GeoSyntec Consultants. The first phase of the study includes a comprehensive inventory of existing MSW landfills, assessing their environmental performance across the media of air, water, and gas. GeoSyntec estimates that under this first phase they have reviewed MSW landfill records at approximately 25 percent of the LEAs, 50 percent of the RWQCBs, and 20 percent of the air districts.

12. **Information/Knowledge Management.** The Board is continuing to build upon its initial efforts providing information from numerous databases in one centralized location. An example is the California Waste Stream Profiles, providing an easy to use and access Internet location for summary data from numerous databases on solid waste issues in California. Additionally, an effort is underway to review and build Quality Assurance and Control protocols for existing and new data. These efforts are expected to continue to improve the Board's ability to quickly respond to both internal and external clients with accurate and useful information.
13. **Solid Waste Cleanup Program.** The Board approved nine projects (two matching grants, two illegal disposal site grants, and five Board-managed cleanups) for funding under the Solid Waste Cleanup Program. Board costs were estimated to be approximately \$2 million, with an additional \$1.9 million in monetary or service contributions from local governments and responsible parties. In addition, six Board-managed projects were completed during the second half of 2000.
14. **Solid Waste Facility Permit Process and Issue Workshops.** Solid Waste Facility Permit Process and Issue Workshops were held to:
 - Provide Board Members with baseline information of the solid waste facility permit process.
 - Provide a comprehensive response to Board Members questions and concerns relative to the permit process.
 - Provide an opportunity for policy discussions separate from permit actions.
 - Begin the process of evaluating current policies, regulations, and statutes for consistency with current Board objectives; for effectiveness; and to identify areas requiring improvement.

The Board directed staff to review the Long Term Violation Policy and the Permit Enforcement Policy relative to permit processing and to make recommendations to the Board.

15. **Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Loan Funding.** The RMDZ loan program approved approximately \$6.5 million in loans to businesses involved in recycling.
16. **School Playground Safety and Recycling Act Grants.** At its November 2000 meeting, the Board awarded \$1,995,000 to 90 applicants for the Playground Safety and Recycling Act Grant Program. This grant program provides funds to school districts to upgrade older playgrounds to meet new safety standards using recycled content equipment and surfacing. Up to \$25,000 was available per applicant providing a 50% match.
17. **Used Oil Program Grants.** In September the Board awarded \$12.2 million and approved changes to streamline the Block Grant program. In October and November, the Board awarded grants to 20 non-profit organizations for a total of \$3.5 million to support local used oil collection programs

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Long Term Violation Policy.** In July 1994, the Board adopted a policy and procedure to consider in determining concurrence in or objection to a proposed solid waste facility permit when a state minimum standard violation exists. In particular the procedure applies to long-term violations with no threat to the environment, public health and safety. At the November 2000 meeting, the Board directed staff to review this policy and prepare a report for their consideration containing recommendations on policy options, with particular focus on the meaning of the phrases: "threat to the environment and public health" and "the operator do what could be done to correct the violation." This report is expected in the first half of 2001.
2. **Permit Enforcement Policy.** In November 1990, the Board adopted a Permit Enforcement Policy clarifying that permits have limits and that exceeding them is a violation requiring an enforcement action. The policy only applies to permit violations. The policy was established to allow a Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to address outdated permits by writing a Notice and Order requiring the operator to apply for a revision to the permit while allowing a facility to continue to operate outside the terms and conditions of the existing permit. On August 9, 2000, the Board directed staff to form a workgroup to discuss whether the Board needs to continue this policy. Additionally, the Board directed staff to come back with a proposal for changing this policy if necessary. Staff have formed a workgroup consisting of representatives from Board Members' offices, Board staff, industry, environmental groups and LEAs. Recommendations are expected to be presented to the Board in the first half of 2001.
3. **Regulations for Solid Wastes Disposed at Class 1 Hazardous Waste Disposal Facilities.** Statute requires that facilities accepting both hazardous waste and other solid waste must obtain a solid waste facility permit and a hazardous waste facility permit. Board staff were directed to develop regulations to place hazardous waste disposal facilities accepting nonhazardous, nonputrescible waste into the registration tier. In January 2000, the Board directed staff to develop emergency regulations, and subsequently, permanent regulations to place those particular wastes into the Board's regulatory tier system -- at a minimum, the registration tier. At the Board's May 2000 meeting, the Board adopted the emergency regulations, which took effect October 1, 2000. Staff have prepared the package for permanent regulations and this issue is to be considered by the Board in early 2001.

4. **Biennial Diversion Programs Review.** Board staff plans to complete 50 of the 52 remaining 1997/1998 SRRE/HHWE biennial reviews by May 2001. All but two of the 40 jurisdictions that will still be on a compliance schedule for implementing their SRRE/HHWE after December 2000 will come before the Board by the end of May 2001; the results of those jurisdictions' 1997/1998 biennial reviews will also be considered at that time. The other two jurisdictions will remain on a compliance schedule during 2001 for program implementation. The Board also expects the first applications for time extensions for meeting the 50% diversion requirement to be submitted as part of each jurisdiction's 2000 Annual Report.
5. **Integrated Education Strategy.** Board staff will be focused on the following priority environmental education efforts:
 - **California Science Teachers Association Web Partnership.** Board staff will develop the scope of work for the California Science Teachers Association Web partnership. The partnership will produce case studies on environmental themes that can be downloaded by secondary teachers. Top science teachers will be working with Cal/EPA technical staff to develop the case studies; the first pilot case study will be a waste management issue.
 - **Border Education.** The Border Education effort will continue to translate the anthology of lessons for Closing the Loop and other curricula into Spanish. In addition, a central workshop will be held at the University of Baja in May.
 - **State Plan for Environmental Education.** State Superintendent Eastin's Environmental Education Steering Committee has joined the Golden State Environmental Education Consortium to produce a state plan for Environmental Education. Eleven listening sessions will be held around the state in the spring to obtain input from constituents about a focus for Environmental Education, priorities and future directions. Superintendent Eastin will host a follow-up summit on Environmental Education in June to finalize the plan.
6. **Biomass Conversion Technologies.** The Board plans to explore biomass conversion technologies (such as hydrolysis and gasification) and related issues by holding a major statewide conference in Spring/Summer 2001. It also will continue participating in an informal State interagency biomass task force and will prepare the annual Cal/EPA report to the Legislature on the implementation of cost-shifting strategies for the biomass industry.

7. **Strategic Plan.** The Board is currently evaluating data gathered through various efforts to identify any gaps in the information. Planning is also underway for stakeholder meetings to validate our assessment data and obtain additional input. The focus is on developing a high level policy-oriented strategic plan for Board adoption at the May 2001 Board meeting.
8. **Waste Tire Program.** The Board anticipates the following tire site activities in the first half of 2001:
 - **Filbin Tire Fire Site.** The Board will continue to remove debris from the Filbin Tire Fire Site in Westley. Characterization of the extent of the contamination from oil and ash residues will commence in the spring or summer, depending on funding availability. Once characterization is completed, a remediation plan will be developed.
 - **Royster Tire Fire Site.** The Board will continue to characterize the extent of the contamination from oil and ash residues at the Royster Tire Fire Site in Tracy, and will develop a plan to remediate the site.
 - **Five-Year Plan.** To implement SB 876, Board staff will develop the Five-Year Plan for submittal to the Legislature in the spring of 2001. The draft plan will be brought to the Board for consideration at its February meeting.
9. **Electronic Wastes.** Special Waste Division staff is part of an interdivisional team to address the issues surrounding recycling and proper management of electronic wastes. The huge number of computers and televisions that will become obsolete in the next few years make this an increasingly high priority. Cal/EPA and U.S.EPA are also working on this issue.
10. **Paint/Antifreeze Management Plan.** Staff is working on a plan to address used paint and antifreeze management issues. A Task Force consisting of representatives from local government and industry was convened to investigate the problem and develop recommendations. A matrix of potential options was presented to the Board in August and final recommendations will be presented in January 2001.
11. **Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Loan Funding.** The remaining \$3.5 million in the RMDZ subaccount will be approved for loans in the first half of 2001. To secure additional long term funding for the program, the Board established a Loan Program Leveraging Working Group composed of various stakeholders. An agenda item will be taken to the Board on short-term program funding options in January 2001.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) protects and enhances public health and the environment by objective scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances.

Accomplishments during the Second Half 2000

1. **Proposition 65.**

- **Addition to Proposition 65 List.** In August, OEHHA administratively added o-phenylphenol to the list of chemicals that cause cancer.
- **Medical Device Warning Regulations Workshop.** OEHHA held a public workshop in September to discuss the need for warning regulations specific to medical devices. The workshop was held in response to a petition from the Advanced Medical Technology Association. Comments are currently being considered and the next appropriate action will be determined early in 2001.
- **Safe Harbor Numbers Workshop.** Businesses are required by Proposition 65 to provide clear and reasonable warnings prior to exposing individuals to chemicals listed as known to the State to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm in amounts above specified risk levels. Establishing safe harbor numbers for these chemicals helps businesses determine the need for product and operational warnings. OEHHA held a public workshop in November to solicit input from interested parties on the process of developing safe harbor numbers under Proposition 65. A recent budget augmentation will allow OEHHA to begin developing safe harbor numbers for the first time in six years.
- **Carcinogen Identification Committee (CIC).** In November, the CIC met to consider the following three chemicals for addition to the Proposition 65 list: 1,3-hexachlorbutadiene, 4-methylquinoline, and MX (3-chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2-(5H)-furanone). OEHHA staff compiled Hazard Identification Documents on each of these chemicals, summarizing the evidence of carcinogenicity for the Committee's consideration. MX was unanimously approved for listing. Both 4-Methylquinoline and Hexachloro-1,3-Butadiene were rejected, but it was recommended that OEHHA request further study of both chemicals.

2. **Emerging Environmental Challenges (EEC).**

- **Summary of EEC Workshops.** In September 2000, OEHHA released a summary of the EEC Workshops held in 1999/2000 (two public workshops in November 1999 and one workshop for Cal/EPA staff in January 2000). The workshops were designed to collect ideas from various interested parties regarding possible environmental challenges that may confront Cal/EPA and its programs in the next five to ten years.
- **Workshop.** In November, OEHHA convened a workshop for high-level policy-makers within Cal/EPA to obtain collective input into the selection of up to three emerging environmental challenges for further characterization. Ideas collected during the series of public and staff workshops were screened and scored by OEHHA. The highest ranked challenges were presented at the November 14 workshop, along with background information reflecting preliminary research conducted by staff. These, as well as additional emerging issues identified by participants, were ranked at the workshop. The three highest scoring issues will be the subjects of further investigation by the EEC program.

3. **Registered Environmental Assessor (REA) Web Site and Database On-line.** The REA program completed the development of enhancements to its Web site and database. The new database was brought on-line in December 2000. The database and ties to the REA website enable REA registrants to update address and web address information on-line. Parties can use their own search parameters to create a list of REAs by geographic area, area code, area of expertise, or any combination of these factors.

4. **Fish Advisories.**

- **Lake Pillsbury.** In September, OEHHA finalized the report, "Methylmercury in Fish from Lake Pillsbury (Lake County): Guidelines for Sport Fish Consumption." The report represents an evaluation of methylmercury in fish from Lake Pillsbury and provides guidelines for limiting consumption of fish from this lake, located in Lake County.
- **Bear/Yuba Rivers and Deer Creek.** In October, the Departments of Environmental Health from Nevada, Placer, and Yuba County issued a public health notification regarding fish consumption for lakes and watercourses in the Bear/Yuba Rivers and Deer Creek watersheds. This advisory was based on OEHHA's evaluation of findings in a United States Geological Survey (USGS) report of elevated mercury levels in sport fish from several of the affected watercourses.

- **Tomales Bay.** In November, OEHHA provided a preliminary evaluation and guidance to Marin County based on findings of elevated mercury in sport fish from Tomales Bay. The county issued an interim advisory in December.
5. **Physicians' Pesticide Training.** OEHHA is continuing its program of medical education designed to alert physicians and other health care professionals to the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and reporting of pesticide poisoning. Presentations on "Pesticide Illness Reporting, Recognition and Management" were held in San Luis Obispo and Oakland, California. A physician's training presentation on medical supervision was also conducted in Firebaugh, California.
 6. **Air Toxics Hot Spots Program.**
 - **Risk Assessment Guidelines.** The final version of the Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Risk Assessment Guidelines, Part IV: the Director of OEHHA adopted Exposure Assessment and Stochastic Technical Support Document in October 2000. This document addresses the risk assessment of airborne pollutants from stationary sources. It proposes that simple risk assessment approaches be used first and that more complicated stochastic methods should only be employed when necessary. This document is the fourth part of a five-part set of guidelines being developed for use by the local air pollution control districts.
 - **Reference Exposure Levels (RELs).** OEHHA prepared 22 draft chronic RELs, addendum to Part III of the Air Toxics Hot Spots Risk Assessment Guidelines, with revisions in response to public and Scientific Review Panel (SRP) members' comments on earlier drafts. The draft RELs have been submitted to the SRP for review and comment.
 - **Facility Risk Assessments.** OEHHA reviewed 34 facility risk assessments for various air districts, conducted under the Air Toxics Hot Spots program.
 7. **Public Health Goals.** In September, OEHHA published the final Public Health Goal (PHG) documents for six chemicals: carbofuran, carbon tetrachloride, dichloromethane, diquat, thiobencarb, and vinyl chloride. Six more PHG documents are in the final stages of completion, after revisions and preparation of responses to extensive comments on the posted drafts. These chemicals are aluminum, benzene, nickel, simazine, perchlorethylene, and uranium.

8. **Multimedia Risk Assessment Project.** OEHHA released the final draft of the Multimedia Risk Assessment Project Phase I Report on Exposure Assessment, entitled "Practices, Needs and Methodologies for Human Exposure Assessment at Cal/EPA". The report contains results of a survey on current uses of human exposure assessment in California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) programs. It also contains summaries of selected resource documents on topics related to exposure assessment.
9. **Environmental Protection Indicators for California (EPIC).** The EPIC project is developing environmental indicators that will allow Cal/EPA to communicate the state of California's environment to the public and provide policymakers with the tools to set priorities and evaluate regulatory performance. In August 2000, OEHHA began the selection of contractors, project staff, and advisory group members for the EPIC Project. Information on existing environmental indicator models, developed by local, state, national and international groups, has been compiled and is being reviewed to assist in the selection of a sound process that is based on science. Project staff have also started identifying candidate environmental issues and indicators as a first step in developing a framework for selecting a list of initial environmental indicators for evaluation.
10. **Water Quality Consults and Assessments.** OEHHA provided consultation to California's Regional Water Quality Control Boards on 28 contaminated sites. Work plans and/or risk assessments were formally reviewed for 21 of these sites.
11. **Methyl Bromide.**
 - **Soil Fumigation Regulations.** OEHHA provided comments and scientific consultation to the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) on proposed methyl bromide soil fumigation regulations.
 - **Soil Fumigation Guidance.** OEHHA participated in the development of DPR's Guidance Manual for Methyl Bromide Field Soil Fumigation.
 - **Commodity and Structural Fumigation Regulations.** OEHHA issued its concurrence with DPR's regulations for both methyl bromide commodity and structural fumigation.
12. **Birth Defect Prevention Act (SB 950).** OEHHA reviewed and submitted comments to DPR on its draft risk characterization of the active pesticide ingredients, thiabendazole and chlorpyrifos. Staff reviewed the DPR data on denatonium saccharide and concurred with the recommended SB 950 data waiver. They also reviewed and commented on the registration for Abate (temephos), an organophosphate pesticide used only to control mosquito larvae.

13. **Toxic Air Contaminants (Pesticides) (AB 1807).** OEHHA completed its mandated review and submission of comments to DPR on molinate as a toxic air contaminant and finalized its findings on both molinate and azinphos-methyl. (Review for azinphos-methyl was completed during the first half of 2000.)
14. **Lompoc Activities.** As part of a continuing evaluation of available health data for Lompoc, California, OEHHA issued an updated analysis of hospital discharges, "Lompoc Hospital Discharges: Analysis Extending 1991-1994 to 1995-1997," to the Lompoc Interagency Work Group (LIWG). At the request of the LIWG, OEHHA also provided a draft community health survey protocol for review and discussion. Additionally, OEHHA, DPR, and Department of Health Services (DHS) developed and finalized screening levels for pesticides in air to support ongoing monitoring efforts. The study was initiated in 1998 to determine if certain illnesses were more frequent in Lompoc, compared to other areas in California.
15. **Drinking Water Action Levels.** OEHHA established Action Levels for cumene, sec-butyl benzene and tert-butyl benzene, 2-chlorotoluene, naphthalene, and vanadium.
16. **Pesticide Exposure Field Investigations.** At the request of local county health officials, following the November 1999 exposure of Earlimart, California residents to metam sodium, OEHHA planned and coordinated a survey of residents, developed the survey questionnaire (in English and Spanish), coordinated questionnaire and survey plans with the DPR and the DHS, and initiated the epidemiological field study.
17. **SB 25: Children's Environmental Health Protection Act.**
 - **Ambient Air Quality.** OEHHA prepared a report entitled "Adequacy of California Ambient Air Quality Standards: Senate Bill No. 25 – Children's Environmental Health," which prioritizes the criteria air pollutants for which ambient air quality standards (AAQS) will be reviewed under SB 25. Prepared in cooperation with the Air Resources Board (ARB), the report is based on focused reviews of the scientific literature pertaining to health effects of the pollutants, particularly in children. The ARB approved the report at its December 7, 2000 meeting.
 - **Toxic Air Contaminants.** Staff began the prioritization of the existing 200 toxic air contaminants (TACs) to determine those TACs that potentially have a more significant impact on children. Focused literature reviews for 33 of these TACs were completed in December 2000.

18. **Hexavalent Chromium (Chromium VI).** OEHHA provided technical support to legislators, government organizations, and the public regarding the presence of hexavalent chromium in southern California's drinking water and issues related to the PHG for this chemical.
19. **Forest Fire Workshop.** OEHHA held a workshop on public health responses to forest fires, including air monitoring needs, measures to reduce exposures, measuring health impacts, and guidance for local health departments and air quality management districts. Workshop participants included staff from DHS, ARB, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, several air quality management districts, a county health department, and several university faculty. U.S. EPA staff has indicated the proceedings from this workshop will be used as the basis for a similar national program to address forest fire health impacts.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Proposition 65.**
 - **“Authoritative Body” Listings.** OEHHA will consider the listing of as many as 14 chemicals under the “authoritative body” mechanism.
 - **“Formally Required to be Labeled” Chemicals.** OEHHA will consider the listing of as many as 14 chemicals under the “formally required to be labeled or identified” mechanism.
 - **“State’s Qualified Experts” Mechanism.** OEHHA will announce and initiate the preparation of at least three hazard identification documents for the possible listing or delisting of chemicals under Proposition 65.
 - **Development of Safe Harbor Levels.** OEHHA will develop “safe harbor” levels for as many as 20 chemicals on the Proposition 65 list. A safe harbor level is the level of exposure to a chemical that does not pose a significant risk of cancer or reproductive harm, as defined by Proposition 65. The safe harbor numbers will be enacted in regulation and will help businesses determine whether they need to provide Proposition 65 warnings.
2. **Complex Mixtures Associated with Gasoline.** OEHHA will draft a report characterizing the health effects of exposure to complex mixtures associated with gasoline. The report will estimate quantitative cancer risks, based on 1996-1998 air monitoring data, and present qualitative non-cancer chronic respiratory health risks for the same period. OEHHA will also begin data collection for the fuel-related pollution respiratory health impacts study.

3. **Review Cancer Risk Assessment Guidelines.** OEHHA will review existing state and federal cancer risk guidelines and consider the extent to which those guidelines address risk for exposures occurring early in life. The OEHHA review is part of Cal/EPA's Children's Health Initiative.
4. **Environmental Emerging Challenges (EEC).** By May 2001, OEHHA will convene a multi-disciplinary panel of experts to investigate one of the three emerging challenges selected by policymakers at the November 14, 2000 EEC workshop. The panel will evaluate the issue and its multiple aspects by available scientific information, along with extrapolations, forecasts, and possible future scenarios, developed using futures research methods. OEHHA intends to partner with UC Davis to convene this panel. Information generated at the workshop (along with background information presented at the workshop) will be incorporated into an issue paper characterizing the emerging challenge.
5. **Registered Environmental Assessor (REA) Program.** OEHHA will continue the development of enhancements to the REA Web site and database. These enhancements will result in savings of staff and resources by moving toward paperless registration and inquiry processes.
6. **Fish Advisories.**
 - **Black Butte Reservoir.** OEHHA will finalize its draft report on the presence of mercury in fish in Black Butte Reservoir in Glenn and Tehama Counties.
 - **USGS Mercury Report.** OEHHA will undertake a formal health evaluation of the USGS report, "Mercury Bioaccumulation in Fish in a Region Affected by Historic Gold Mining: the South Yuba River, Deer Creek, and Bear River Watershed, California, 1999."
 - **Tomales Bay.** OEHHA will undertake a formal health evaluation and report on data collected under the Coastal Fish Contamination Program showing elevated mercury in sport fish from Tomales Bay.
7. **Physician Pesticide Training.** OEHHA will continue training physicians in the reporting, recognition, and management of pesticide illness, as well as continuing medical supervisor training. A revised edition of the booklet, Guidelines for Physicians, will be released.
8. **Asbestos.** OEHHA will be providing scientific/technical support to the ARB during the development of the asbestos airborne toxic control measure (ATCM) in the first half of 2001.

9. **Hexavalent Chromium (Chromium VI).** OEHHA will continue to provide technical support to the DHS and local agencies in assessing health risks stemming from the presence of hexavalent chromium in drinking water supplies. DHS, in consultation with OEHHA, is required to submit an exposure and risk assessment of hexavalent chromium in the San Fernando Basin by the end of 2001.
10. **Public Health Goals.** Work is progressing on the development of more than a dozen new PHGs for drinking-water contaminants for the fourth year of the PHG program. Initial drafts are complete for most of these chemicals and have been submitted for internal reviews, discussions, and revisions.
11. **Environmental Protection Indicators for California (EPIC) Project.** An EPIC Conference will be held January 18-19, 2001 to inform stakeholders about the project and provide an opportunity for input into the process, such as identification of priority issues. Following the conference, priority issues for indicator development will be identified in collaboration with Cal/EPA Boards and Departments and other agencies. An Interagency Advisory Group will be convened following the conference. The project framework, priorities for indicator development, and initial set of indicators will be determined and submitted for both internal and external review. A report of the final determinations will be submitted to Cal/EPA by June 2001.
12. **Toxic Air Contaminants (Pesticides).** OEHHA is expecting the draft toxic air contaminant document for chlorpyrifos to be submitted for our review before the end of the second half of 2000. Mandated review, comments, and findings will be forwarded to DPR during the first half of 2001.
13. **Pesticide Exposure Field Investigations.** During the first half of 2001, OEHHA will complete the epidemiological field study of the November 1999 pesticide incident in Earlimart (Tulare County), in which a number of residents reported health problems resulting from exposure to metam sodium.
14. **SB 25: Children's Environmental Health Protection Act.**
 - **PM₁₀ Standard.** OEHHA will begin assessment of the adequacy of the PM₁₀ standard for protecting the general public, including infants and children, pursuant to SB 25.

- **Toxic Air Contaminants.** OEHHA will continue the process of prioritizing TACs to be reviewed for their impact on children, pursuant to SB 25. Public comments will be solicited and the SRP will consider the proposed priorities. OEHHA will address all comments and concerns and submit a final recommended prioritized list of TACs to ARB for review.
 - **Children's Environmental Health Symposium.** In April 2001, OEHHA will hold a symposium on Children's Environmental Health. The first day will focus on pharmacokinetics, while the second day will emphasize neurotoxicity.
 - **Risk Assessment Methods.** OEHHA will continue to develop risk assessment methods that specifically address the toxicity of chemical exposure on infants and children.
15. **Air Toxics Hot Spots.** OEHHA will complete preparation of the Air Toxics Hot Spots Risk Assessment Guidance Manual, solicit public comment and conduct public workshops, submit the manual for SRP review, and prepare the document for adoption by the Director. The guidance manual is designed to assist air districts and interested parties in assessing risks from Hot Spots facilities.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

The mission of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.

WATER RIGHTS

Water rights focus on the equitable allocation of water for urban, agricultural and environmental interests. Water rights activities and decisions are of paramount importance to all of California. SWRCB and Regional Board staffs have pursued efforts on several fronts during this period as follows:

Accomplishments during the Second Half of 2000

1. **Bay-Delta Program.** In the final phase of Bay-Delta proceedings to implement the Bay-Delta Plan, the SWRCB is reviewing the responsibilities of some Sacramento River watershed water rights holders to meet flow requirements. The SWRCB accepted an agreement between Bear River water users and the Department of Water Resources regarding their respective responsibilities. Further hearings regarding responsibility of other Sacramento River watershed water rights holders will occur in 2001.
2. **Yuba River.** The SWRCB released a draft decision that responds to a complaint regarding public trust and resource protection issues on the Yuba River. The draft decision proposes new flow requirements and fish screen requirements for the protection of aquatic resources.
3. **Imperial Irrigation District/San Diego County Water Authority.** The SWRCB adopted a work plan in July 2000 on the proposed 200,000 acre-foot water transfer between Imperial and San Diego. A draft environmental document is expected to be released in March of 2001.
4. **Water Rights Workshop and Workgroups.** To help streamline the process of applying for a water right or a water transfer, the SWRCB convened a workgroup on water transfers and held a workshop to gather information and review alternatives to expedite the water right process. Legislative and administrative changes will be proposed based on information and recommendations gathered at the workshops.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Bay-Delta Program.** The responsibilities of Sacramento River Basin water rights holders to meet Bay-Delta flow requirements will be considered in continuing Bay-Delta hearings. The Board will hold a workshop in early January 2001 to determine procedures and timing of these hearings
2. **Yuba River.** The State Water Board will consider in February 2001, adoption of a draft decision setting new flow standards for the protection of aquatic resources.
3. **Delta Wetlands.** The State Water Board will consider adoption of a draft decision that would authorize the flooding of two Delta islands, changing them into water storage facilities.
4. **Imperial Irrigation District (IID)/San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).** The SWRCB will schedule a hearing on the proposed water transfer for early 2001, pending completion of a draft Environmental Impact Report from IID/SDCWA.
5. **Water Rights Workshop and Workgroups.** The SWRCB will convene a workgroup to work in conjunction with a consultant to investigate the Board's proper role in the permitting of appropriations from subterranean streams.

CLEAN BEACHES

Bacteria from storm water runoff, urban runoff, sewage spills and other unknown sources have caused periodic closures of many southern California beaches. While beach closures serve to protect public health, significant losses occur with respect to recreational, social and economic aspects of the region. With the objective of eliminating beach closures, SWRCB and Regional Board staffs have pursued efforts on several fronts during this period as follows (also see storm water permits below):

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Statewide Efforts.** The SWRCB, in cooperation with local agencies, developed a beach closure warnings database. Staff continue to lead the Beach Water Quality Workgroup (Workgroup), an ad hoc committee composed of groups responsible for the protection and reporting of beach water quality in Southern California. The Workgroup has developed a model monitoring program for bacteria in coastal waters. The model integrates monitoring by storm water agencies with that of sewage treatment plants and environmental health agencies. Additionally, the SWRCB is developing source investigation protocols for beaches where storm drains frequently contaminate beaches.

2. **Sanitary Sewer Overflow and Spill Management System.** The SWRCB and Regional Boards have developed and are operating a new Sanitary Sewer Overflow and Spill Management System that provides the ability to regularly report on progress in reducing spills and identify agencies and geographic areas with chronic spill problems.
3. **Huntington Beach Bacterial Investigations.** The second phase of the investigations into the sources of bacteria in ocean waters at Huntington Beach was completed. The Santa Ana Regional Board obtained \$200,000 from the SWRCB Cleanup and Abatement Account to help support additional work. In response to an Executive Officer order, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties submitted a report on the bacterial quality of the upper Santa Ana River.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Source Investigations of Storm Drains.** SWRCB staff will continue to work with the Department of Health Services and the Beach Closure Workgroup to develop methods to conduct source investigations of storm drains for bacteriological standards. A report will be prepared for the State Legislature by March 31, 2001.
2. **Bacteria Objectives.** The Los Angeles Regional Board plans to hold a public hearing to consider modification of the region's bacteria objectives. The proposed change would make the region's bacteria objectives consistent with U.S. EPA's and with the beach closure requirements of AB 411.

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDL)

TMDL's provide a means of restoring the health of the state's 509 listed impaired surface waters. The TMDL process involves identifying and addressing all sources of a specific pollutant causing impairments of beneficial uses. Ultimately, each pollutant source is allocated a daily permissible discharge loading. Diverse interests in a watershed are involved in drafting and negotiating TMDLs. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Structure and Effectiveness of SWRCB's Water Quality Programs.** In response to AB 982, staff prepared a report on the structure and effectiveness of the SWRCB's programs in relation to CWA Section 303(d) that deals with the listing of impaired water bodies and for development of Total Maximum Daily Loads. The report is due to the State Legislature by January 31, 2001.

2. **Navarro River Watershed.** The North Coast Regional Board staff completed and forwarded to USEPA documents necessary for sediment and a temperature TMDL for the Navarro River. The documents were forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its review.
3. **Lower South San Francisco Bay.** Based on scientific data collected for a stakeholder group (dischargers, environmentalists, and others), the San Francisco Regional Board decided that site-specific objectives for copper and nickel would be appropriate for Lower South San Francisco Bay. Consequently, the Board-amended NPDES permits for wastewater treatment plants in Santa Clara County. The amendments stated the Board's intent to remove copper and nickel in the Lower South San Francisco Bay from the list of impaired water bodies, thus removing the need to develop a TMDL. Also, Board staff established a PCB TMDL stakeholder forum to help develop a PCB TMDL for all of San Francisco Bay by June 2002.
4. **San Lorenzo River, Morro Bay, Cholo Creek, Las Tablas Creek and San Luis Obispo Creek Watersheds.** The Central Coast Regional Board forwarded six TMDL reports to USEPA for five water bodies. These TMDLs cover concerns related to nitrates, nutrients and metals. The San Lorenzo River nitrate TMDL was adopted as a Basin Plan Amendment.
5. **Heavenly Valley Creek and Indian Creek Reservoir.** The Lahontan Regional Board issued draft Basin Plan amendments for TMDLs applicable to Heavenly Valley Creek and Indian Creek Reservoir.
6. **New River and Alamo River.** The Colorado River Basin Regional Board staff is in the final stages of developing and receiving peer review of TMDLs for the New River and the Alamo River.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Morro Bay and Chorro Creek.** The Central Coast Regional Board will consider Basin Plan amendments for siltation and nutrients TMDLs in the Morro Bay watershed and a metals TMDL in the Chorro Creek watershed.
2. **Los Angeles River, Calleguas Creek and Ballona Creek.** The Los Angeles Regional Board is scheduled to consider three TMDLs during the first half of 2001: (1) Trash/litter in the Los Angeles River; (2) Chlorides in Calleguas Creek; and (3) Trash/litter in Ballona Creek.

3. **Sacramento and Feather Rivers.** The Sacramento River Watershed group is scheduled to complete a management strategy to reduce levels of diazinon entering the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. The Regional Board may incorporate elements of the strategy into load reduction programs that are under development.
4. **Chollas Creek & Rainbow Creek.** The San Diego Regional Board will consider Basin Plan amendments to implement TMDLs for Chollas Creek and Rainbow Creek.
5. **New River and Alamo River.** The Colorado River Basin Regional Board will consider for adoption a pathogen TMDL for the New River and a sedimentation/siltation TMDL for the Alamo River.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION AND CLEANUPS

Approximately 40 percent of the state's drinking water comes from groundwater resources. These resources are threatened by a legacy of problems associated with past practices of handling materials and wastes. The most prevalent problems include leaking underground storage tanks containing fuel or solvents and the disposal of spent chemicals. Containment and cleanup of groundwater contaminants, improvements in waste and material handling practices, the use of graphical information systems and deploying the best science available are all components of the state's groundwater protection program. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **MTBE and Underground Tanks.**
 - **Underground Storage Tank (UST) Data Systems.** The SWRCB has incorporated more than 20,000 operating underground storage tank facilities into the GeoTracker Internet-based database. The pre-existing GeoTracker database includes leaking tank sites.
 - **Vulnerability Maps.** The SWRCB prepared and published on its Internet site MTBE vulnerability maps. These maps provide critical information to prioritize MTBE cleanup. For example, in November 2000, the San Francisco Regional Board requested technical reports from 50 gasoline service stations, requiring that they conduct one-time sampling of groundwater for MTBE, due to their proximity to existing wells and to local hydrogeologic conditions.
 - **City of Santa Monica, Arcadia Wellfield.** An aquifer remediation system is nearly complete. The treated water from the Arcadia Wellfield will be routed to Santa Monica treatment plant for blending with other

water. This will return the Arcadia Wellfield to use as a domestic water supply for the City of Santa Monica.

- **South Lake Tahoe.** The Lahontan Regional Board continued to pursue corrective actions at the Beacon gas station in Meyers. The Regional Board installed 40 monitoring wells that have identified the extent of the contamination. The onsite cleanup system is being scaled back as groundwater levels of MTBE improve.
- **Underground Storage Tank Regulations.** The SWRCB held a public hearing on proposed regulations that would require enhanced leak detection systems for single-walled tanks that are within 1000 feet of a public water supply well. As proposed, tank owners would have 18 months to meet new requirements.
- **Morro Bay.** Shell Oil Company has begun cleanup of an MTBE plume that threatens City of Morro Bay standby water supply wells. This problem was found by sampling at various locations throughout the City's wastewater collection system.
- **Cambria.** Cleanup has started on an MTBE plume that threatens two of Cambria's standby water supply wells. The Central Coast Regional Board has also issued an enforcement order requiring Chevron to develop an alternative water supply for Cambria during the cleanup.

2. **Other Groundwater Cleanups.**

- **Unocal Avila Beach.** The Central Coast Regional Board certified Unocal's cleanup of petroleum spills beneath Avila Beach. Unocal completed the cleanup ahead of schedule and surpassed the standards set by the Board in its 1998 cleanup order. In November, the Regional Board disbursed nearly \$1 million to fund water quality improvement projects in the Avila Beach area. The funds are part of the state's share of a settlement reached between affected parties and Unocal for its petroleum spills in Avila Beach.
- **Santa Rosa PCE Cleanup.** The SWRCB provided the North Coast Regional Board \$356,000 to provide alternative water supplies, determine the responsible parties and conduct monitoring in response to tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination in Santa Rosa. PCE is an industrial solvent used for cleaning and degreasing and is generally associated with dry cleaning operations.
- **Napa River Flood Control Project.** In October, the San Francisco Regional Board issued site cleanup requirements for five petroleum-contaminated sites near the Napa River. Cleanup of these sites is urgently needed prior to channel widening, which is an integral part of the innovative Napa River flood control project.

- **San Gabriel Valley Cleanup Program.** The Los Angeles Regional Board issued seven Cleanup and Abatement Orders in December 2000 for the Baldwin Park Operable Unit. Staff inspections for volatile organic hydrocarbon sources in the Alhambra Operable Unit have identified 16 suspected hexavalent chromium sites.
- **San Fernando Valley Cleanup Program.** The Los Angeles Regional Board participated in numerous public meetings and conducted a workshop on hexavalent chromium contamination in November. The Regional Board is investigating more than 160 suspected hexavalent chromium sites.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **MTBE - Statewide.** The SWRCB, Regional Boards, and local agencies will prioritize MTBE release sites within the framework proposed in the draft Guidelines for the Investigation and Cleanup of MTBE.
2. **LUST Regulations.** The SWRCB will consider adoption of regulations requiring enhanced leak detection for USTs with a single-walled component located within 1,000 feet of a public water supply well.
3. **UST Field-Based Research Project.** Through a SWRCB contract with the University of California, Davis 180 facilities with upgraded underground storage tanks will be tested in six areas of the state. A report on the effectiveness these systems will be prepared.
4. **Cleanups for Napa River Flood Control Project.** The San Francisco Regional Board expects to issue final site cleanup requirements in early 2001 for five sites near the Napa River that are contaminated with petroleum.
5. **South Lake Tahoe.** The Lahontan Regional Board will establish final cleanup standards for Meyers Beacon gas station site. This site is being cleaned under Board supervision.
6. **MTBE Sampling at Operating Stations.** San Francisco Regional Board staff will make recommendations based on the results of a groundwater sampling at about 50 operating gasoline service stations.
7. **MTBE in Anaheim Wells.** Santa Ana Regional Board staff, Arco, Texaco and Unocal will begin an investigation to determine the sources of MTBE detected in Southern California Water Company wells. Two of three wells have been shut down from MTBE contamination, and low levels of the contaminant have also been detected in the remaining well. The three oil companies have operated gasoline stations upgradient of these wells.

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANS

Water Quality Control Plans provide the blueprint or general plan for achieving water quality goals and objectives for the state's waters. These Plans are the basis for the permitting of discharges to the state's waters. Typically, Plans define the waters and their respective beneficial uses to be protected, allowable pollutant levels and measures to achieve goals. These plans have been developed by each Regional Water Board at the regional level (major watersheds) and by the SWRCB at the statewide level for waters and issues common to more than one region. All Water Quality Control Plans are subject to SWRCB approval. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Amendments of the California Ocean Plan.** The California Ocean Plan is the master plan document that establishes statewide policy for the protection of these coastal waters. The SWRCB adopted five proposed amendments to the California Ocean Plan in November 2000. The most significant amendments dealt with acute toxicity, biological pollutants of public health concern, and a method of determining compliance with water quality objectives.
2. **Inland Surface Waters/Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Implementation Policy.** Staff has initiated work to support the adopted policy. Draft guidance on mixing zones was prepared and is currently under peer review. A contract to develop procedures for the preparation of site-specific objectives was executed.
3. **San Joaquin River.** The San Joaquin River has been identified as one of the poorest quality rivers in the United States, due primarily to salinity. The Central Valley Regional Board held three Basin Plan amendment workshops to develop objectives and a plan to control salt in the river.
4. **Santa Ana River Basin.** The Santa Ana Regional Board held two public workshops to review the results of a \$4 million study of water quality objectives and groundwater basin boundaries. Basin Plan amendments will follow.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Inland Surface Waters/Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Implementation Policy.** The SWRCB will execute a contract in Spring 2001 to assess the standards used for waters that are largely comprised of flows from effluent

discharges. Workshops will be held in Spring 2001 to seek public comment regarding these water bodies.

2. **Thermal Plan.** Staff will complete the review and update of the Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (Thermal Plan). This plan is of significant relevance to power generating facilities.
3. **Los Angeles Basin Plan.** The Los Angeles Regional Board will hold a public hearing to consider modification of Basin Plan bacteria objectives to achieve consistency with USEPA and statewide beach closure criteria.
4. **Central Valley Basin Plan: pH and Turbidity.** The Central Valley Regional Board will consider a Basin Plan amendment to address pH and turbidity standards. This issue is of critical importance for situations where discharges comprise most of the flows in a water body.

NONPOINT SOURCE CONTROL

Statewide assessments of water quality conditions show that nonpoint sources of pollution have the greatest effect on the state's water quality. Unlike point sources of pollution, which are typically controlled through treatment facilities and authorized by permits, nonpoint sources are diffuse and not readily controlled by conventional means. Diffuse activities such as the cultivation or development of land contribute to concerns about pollutants in runoff. Controlling nonpoint sources requires the use of preventative plans and practices by those directly involved and those overseeing such activities. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program.** In July 2000, California became the first state to satisfy the nonpoint source pollution control requirements of the federal Clean Water Act and the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990. The SWRCB and California Coastal Commission received approval of the *Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program* from the USEPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Additionally, meetings were held by the Interagency Coordinating Committee (member State agencies) to develop each agency's first five-year implementation plan.

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement is the backstop of regulatory programs; violations must be corrected. Effective enforcement fosters compliance as the norm and holds accountable those who violate. To reinforce these outcomes the SWRCB and Regional Boards have embarked on initiatives to more fully implement fair, firm and consistent

enforcement of water quality and water rights laws and regulations. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Iron Mountain Mine.** The Central Valley Regional Board long-term settlement reached at the nation's largest toxic metal pollution site. The Central Valley Regional Board participated in lengthy settlement negotiations with U.S.EPA, DTSC and Aventis Crop Sciences, USA, Inc. to assure unending treatment of acid mine drainage containing toxic heavy metals from the inactive Iron Mountain Mine site. The mine was ranked as one of the worst in the U.S. More than 2,000 pounds of copper, zinc and cadmium were discharged each day into the Sacramento River resulting in numerous fish kills and loss of valuable spawning habitat for salmon, trout and steelhead. Over the last 17 years, several remedies have been used at the site, culminating in the construction of a large acid neutralization treatment plant. The settlement assures continued treatment of the toxic discharge for the next 30 years and established a \$500+ million fund to assure continued operation. The upper Sacramento River is listed as impaired for copper, zinc and cadmium and may be de-listed as a result of this settlement.
2. **City of Folsom Sewage Spill.** Last winter 700,000 gallons of raw sewage spilled from a City of Folsom pump station into the American River. The Central Valley Regional Board imposed a \$700,000 fine issued against the city, which has been paid. Studies on the long-term capacity of the sewer collection system are in progress.
3. **Molycorp.** The Lahontan Regional Board issued a series of four cleanup and Abatement orders to Molycorp to assist in cleanup of contaminated groundwater from mining wastes in San Bernardino County.
4. **City of San Diego Sewage Spill.** The San Diego Regional Board assessed a \$3.47 million penalty against the City of San Diego for a 34 million gallon sewage spill to Adobe Falls Creek.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **PG&E Diablo Canyon.** The Central Coast Regional Board will finalize its settlement with Pacific Gas and Electric Company regarding cooling water at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. The settlement is in the \$16 million to \$26 million range, with the centerpiece being conservation of over 2000 acres of coastal lands, protecting 5.7 miles of coastal marine habitats as appropriate for these areas. The Central Coast Regional Board will initiate monthly monitoring of 30 coastal lagoons and estuaries.

2. **Enforcement Policy.** The SWRCB will consider adoption of a draft enforcement policy for the state. This policy would set priorities for enforcement actions and recommend procedures for calculating penalties.
3. **Crystal Cove.** CalTrans and the Department of Parks and Recreation will submit proposals to eliminate discharges of waste to the Irvine Coast Area of Special Biological Significance at Crystal Cove. The proposals are required by a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) adopted by the Santa Ana Regional Board. The order also names The Irvine Company, which is required to eliminate discharges of waste by November 2001.

WATER QUALITY AND STORM PERMITS

With the recent adoption of federal rules and state policies to establish numeric standards for toxics in surface waters, Regional Boards are now developing and adopting discharge permits that reflect these new standards. Another significant change in permit activities involves the federal storm water permit program; situations required to be under permit are being expanded to smaller populations and activities. Examples of the most significant permit activities during this period are highlighted below:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP).** The State Board sustained, with minor modifications, an appeal of the Los Angeles Regional Board's SUSMP requirements. Design standards in the SUSMP for specified new developments will help ensure that storm water runoff is treated to the maximum extent practicable.
2. **Duke Energy.** The Central Coast Regional Board issued a discharge permit to Duke Energy for its existing and proposed power plants in Moss Landing. This is the first power plant upgrade in the state permitted under an agreement between Cal/EPA and the California Energy Commission. As part of the project, the Regional Board required \$7 million worth of mitigation in Elkhorn Slough.
3. **Sacramento Regional NPDES Permit.** The Central Valley Regional Board adopted a revised discharge permit for the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, the largest municipal wastewater discharger in the Central Valley. Re-issuance of the permit involves a number of new and controversial issues which are of regional and statewide significance, including: definition of mixing zones; acute toxicity within the mixing zone; protection of benthic organisms; discharges of pollutants into water quality-limited segments; and thermal effects on aquatic life.

4. **Statewide Biosolids Waste Discharge Requirements.** The SWRCB adopted the Statewide Biosolids Waste Discharge Requirements and certified its associated final Environmental Impact Report on August 17, 2000. SWRCB staff is developing training.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **NPDES Storm Water Program (Phase II).** SWRCB staff will draft and release for review a proposed policy to implement Phase II of the NPDES Storm Water Program. Phase II will affect municipal separate storm sewer systems serving a population of less than 100,000 persons, State and federal facilities in areas subject to municipal storm water permits, and construction activities resulting in a land disturbance of between one and five acres.
2. **General Construction Activities Storm Water Permit.** SWRCB staff will propose revisions of the statewide construction activities permit to address discharges to water bodies impaired by sediment, turbidity, or siltation.
3. **Stockton Permit Renewal.** The City of Stockton discharges treated wastewater into the San Joaquin River, which is impaired for dissolved oxygen, unknown toxicity, mercury, and a variety of pesticides. With upstream diversions, the river seasonally experiences flow reversals. Renewal of this permit involves a variety of complex issues including the required level of disinfection. The Central Valley Regional Board has been working with the City and state Department of Health Services on a multi-year study of the health effects of the discharge. The permit is scheduled for Board consideration by June 2001.
4. **Municipal Storm Water Permits.** The Regional Boards will consider adopting municipal storm water permits for Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Clara and San Diego counties and their incorporated cities. These new permits are likely to be complex and controversial due to the significance of storm water pollution issues in the region.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

About 70 percent of the SWRCB's annual budget is comprised of funds that are passed on to others in the form of financial assistance. These funds provide grants for cleanups of leaking underground fuel tanks, loans and grants for wastewater treatment facilities, water recycling projects, nonpoint source projects, watershed projects and other authorized projects. The most significant activities during this period are highlighted below:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund Regulations.** As directed by recent legislation and State Board decisions, the UST Cleanup Fund revised program regulations to clarify and simplify regulatory language.
2. **State Revolving Fund (SRF).** On July 20, 2000, the SWRCB authorized staff to sell \$200 million in revenue bonds. Additionally, staff presented to the Board a strategy for funding of SRF expanded-use projects (water quality problems from pollution sources other than sewage treatment plants).
3. **Proposition 13.** The State's voters passed this omnibus water protection ballot initiative overwhelmingly in March 2000. The Act provides funds for a multitude of water quality and protection plans and program. To help disperse the funds, the SWRCB has (1) released Requests for Proposals for the competitive portion of the funds contained in the State's annual budget for three water quality protection programs; (2) conducted three workshops to assist applicants in applying for grants; (3) developed contracts with agencies that are to receive funds for specific projects listed in the Act; and (4) established a priority list to distribute \$60 million in small community grant assistance for wastewater treatment plant construction. Contracts with the City of Redding and the San Diego County Water Authority have been executed.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Proposition 13.** For projects qualifying for fiscal year 2000 funding, SWRCB, Regional Board and California Coastal Commission staff will review, prioritize and rank these proposals. The final selection of the projects will occur at a SWRCB meeting. With stakeholder input, a Request for Proposals will be developed to address funding anticipated in the State Budget for Fiscal Year 2001/02 for the Watershed, Nonpoint Source, and Coastal Nonpoint Source Programs. The Request for Proposals will be released by June 2001. SWRCB staff will continue to develop contracts with agencies for projects specified in Proposition 13 to receive funding. An emphasis will be to concentrate on contracts from the Southern California

Integrated Watershed Program and the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watershed Program.

SURFACE WATER CLEANUPS

The state's surface waters are threatened by a legacy of problems associated with past practices of handling materials and wastes. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period:

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Penn Mine.** The Central Valley Regional Board, in partnership with the East Bay Municipal Utilities District, completed reclamation activities at Penn Mine in Calaveras County. The work involved capping mine waste and restoration of the area to near pre-mining conditions.
2. **Leviathan Mine.** The Lahontan Regional Board, under an agreement with USEPA, treated over six million gallons of acid mine drainage, improved the treatment system, revegetated approximately five acres and continued ongoing site maintenance and water quality monitoring. This treatment effort will eliminate the chance of pond overflows in Spring 2001.
3. **San Diego Bay Toxic Hot Spots.** In November the San Diego Regional Board submitted cleanup plans for four moderate-priority toxic hot spots in San Diego Bay.
4. **Flooding of Dairy Areas.** The Executive Officer of the Santa Ana Regional Board directed Riverside and San Bernardino counties to develop plans to manage runoff that affects the Chino-Corona dairy preserve. Currently, runoff from upstream municipalities routinely floods dairies during storms due to inadequate flood control infrastructure. This leads to serious downstream water contamination problems from dairy wastewater. In response to this directive, the counties have initiated design of flood control improvement projects, which will be partially supported by Proposition 13 funding.
5. **Mercury Collection.** During August and September 2000, SWRCB staff, in partnership with U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management staff, began a mercury recycling pilot project in Nevada, Placer, and Sierra Counties. The effort was aimed at recovering mercury from recreational gold miners. To date, 270 pounds of mercury have been recovered and follow-up efforts are underway.

MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

Monitoring and assessment of waters provides vital information for determining the health of waters, trends in water quality conditions, the need for follow-up investigations and the basis for prescribing waste discharge limitations in permits. The following highlights the most significant activities during this period.

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Ambient Surface Water Quality Program.** In response to AB 982, staff prepared a report proposing a comprehensive ambient surface water quality-monitoring program.
2. **Coastal Water Quality Monitoring.** In response to AB 1429, staff prepared a report on coastal water quality monitoring.
3. **Water Quality Assessment (WQA) Report.** Pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act Section 305(b), staff has submitted to USEPA California's WQA Report for the year 2000. The WQA describes the condition of waters of the State.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program.** The North Coast Regional Control Board is starting the new Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program. Permanent monitoring stations will be established as well as rotating intensive basin surveys. Data will be used in watershed assessments and defining problem areas and documenting water quality.

Other Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Operator Certification Program.** The wastewater industry has undergone dramatic changes in technology and management techniques in recent years. The SWRCB will review the current program to determine if changes are necessary to meet the needs of the regulated community. The SWRCB will organize a workgroup of interested parties to review the current Program and make recommendations for any changes to existing laws and regulations.
2. **SWRCB/RWQCB Strategic Plan.** The State and Regional Water Boards have begun strategic planning. Cal/EPA's recently released Strategic Vision provides the Boards with guidance. An initial meeting was held in October 2000 at which the Boards' executive management team approved the plan's framework and project milestones. Since then, a series of data gathering interviews have been held with both internal and external partners and stakeholders throughout the state. Participants have shared their long-term and short-term vision for the Boards, identified future challenges and

opportunities, and provided ideas for outcomes by which the Boards can measure their future success in protecting California's waters.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The mission of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) is to restore, protect and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality. Cal/EPA's vision is of a California that enjoys a clean, healthy, sustainable environment that enhances the quality of life for current and future generations, and protects our diverse natural resources.

Accomplishments During the Second Half of 2000

1. **Strategic Vision.** Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision, setting forth the Agency's vision, mission, core values, goals and objectives, was disseminated internally, to Cal/EPA staff, and externally, to stakeholders, governmental partners, and constituents. The Strategic Vision was also placed on CalEPA's Web site for broad access and information-sharing purposes. A Strategic Vision Implementation Work plan was developed and a cross-organizational team was formed to link Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision to Board, Department and Office strategic plans.
2. **Organizational and Fiscal Review.** Cal/EPA is developing legislation (SB 1011) to implement several recommendations embodied in the report, "A Structural and Fiscal Review of the California Environmental Protection Agency" that was presented to the Governor and to the Legislature in early 2000.
3. **Children's Environmental Health Center.** Cal/EPA, to implement the requirements of SB 25 (Escutia, 1999), established the position of Assistant Secretary for Children's Environmental Health. This position will function as the director of the Children's Environmental Health Center within Cal/EPA.
4. **CALFED.** The Secretary signed the Record of Decision for the CALFED Bay-Delta Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Report (EIS/EIR) on August 28, 2000. The Record of Decision represents the culmination of the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act processes. The ROD reflects the final selection of a long-term plan (Preferred Program Alternative) to fix the Bay-Delta, describes a strategy for implementing the plan, and identifies complementary actions the CALFED agencies will pursue. The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is an unprecedented effort to build a framework for managing California's most precious resource: water. The Secretary and the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board serve on the CALFED Policy Council.

5. **Cal/EPA Environmental Management System Program.** An Environmental Management System (EMS) is a process by which an entity (public or private, regional or statewide) identifies both regulated and unregulated environmental impacts of its activities, and develops targets and plans to achieve measurable reductions in those impacts. Cal/EPA has been involved in the following activities related to EMS:
- **EMS Pilot Project.** Cal/EPA formed two working groups in Northern and Southern California. The working groups are comprised of environmental public interest groups, government, the regulated community, environmental consultants, and members of academia. Cal/EPA has sponsored training of these groups to facilitate a common understanding and terminology among working group members on EMS issues. To date, three pilot project facilities (IBM, Benziger Family Winery, and Artistic Plating) have shared their EMS implementation information and provided facility tours.
 - **Sustainability Project.** In cooperation with the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group and the Silicon Valley Environmental Partnership, Cal/EPA, along with other state and local regulatory agencies, has initiated the "Sustainable Silicon Valley Project."
6. **Border Environmental Affairs.** The 2000 Budget Act appropriated funds to Cal/EPA and its boards, departments, and offices to address environmental impacts along the California-Mexico border region, to support Mexican and binational efforts to improve the border environmental and public health, and to participate fully in binational work groups addressing pollution issues along the California-Mexico border. To that end, Cal/EPA and its boards, departments, and office have begun work to address cross media and binational issues. In the past six months, Cal/EPA has:
- **Border Affairs Unit.** Established a Border Affairs Unit, and recruited an Assistant Secretary for Border Affairs to develop policy and coordinate activities of the boards, departments, and office on California-Mexico border environmental issues. The Assistant Secretary is the advisor to the Governor and Secretary of Cal/EPA on California-Mexico border environmental matters.
 - **Border XXI.** Worked with the federal government in developing priorities with a regional focus and conducting outreach to involve local stakeholders in the decision-making process. Also participated in the development of a federal/state transition paper for the incoming U.S. and Mexico administrations.
 - **Border Web Page.** Developed a comprehensive Border Web page that includes up-to-date information on environmental projects, infrastructure, meetings, related documents and links.

- **Tijuana Smog Check.** At the request of the Mayor of Tijuana and the Bureau of Automotive Repair, assisted in the development of a pilot smog check program for the City of Tijuana.
- **Border Governors Conference.** As follow-up to the XVIII Border Governors Conference held in Sacramento and its related joint declarations, took the lead in implementing several of the declarations, including urging the U.S. Congress to increase the appropriation to the Border Environment Infrastructure Fund. As a result, the appropriation was increased by 50%.

7. **Enforcement.**

- **Cross Media Training.** A cross-media training inspector certification program for all Cal/EPA Board and Department field staff has been developed. The training, called "Cal/EPA Academy," covers many basic investigation/inspection subjects including multi-media issues. Actual training is planned to begin in the next 6 months for a total of three sessions during 2001. It is anticipated that this training will eventually be offered to local agency counterparts such as air districts, CUPAs and LEAs.
- **Cross Media Investigations.** Cal/EPA made additional referrals to the Attorney's General's Office and local District Attorney offices pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code section 12812.2.
- **Cross Media Enforcement Unit.** An intra agency task force has been assembled to coordinate use of the Air Resources Board staff available pursuant to the memorandum of Understanding signed earlier this year, and to coordinate use of other BDO staff for cross media investigations.

8. **Environmental Justice.** To date, Cal/EPA has accomplished the following:

- Established an Environmental Justice Program and recruited for an Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice. The Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice will be responsible for developing Cal/EPA's environmental justice mission statement, managing the agency's environmental justice activities, and coordinating and overseeing the environmental justice activities of the agency's boards, departments, and offices. Additionally, the Assistant Secretary will also serve as the agency's primary point-of-contact on environmental justice issues with the public, business, federal and local governmental agencies, and other state agencies.
- Developed a draft unified mission statement and draft operating principles with the participation of the boards, departments and office.

- Convened a Cal/EPA-wide environmental justice coordinating work group to discuss and coordinate environmental justice activities at each of the boards, departments, and office. Developed a timeline for implementing environmental justice activities.
 - Participated in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research environmental justice steering committee and in U.S. EPA's environmental justice Training Collaborative, and has explored other opportunities for environmental justice partnerships with U.S. EPA.
9. **Military Base Remediation and Reuse.** During the last half of 2000 Cal/EPA, in concert with its constituent boards and departments was able to make significant progress toward simplifying and accelerating assistance to local governments as they absorb closed military facilities into existing infrastructures, and as they make plans for their full inclusion in their local economies. Specifically, these efforts have included:
- **Assistant Secretary for Military Base Remediation and Reuse.** Established the Assistant Secretary for Military Base Remediation and Reuse to open and enhance lines of communication and to shepherd efforts to complete environmental regulatory reviews as quickly and efficiently as possible, typically through concurrent rather than sequential reviews.
 - **Petitions for Early Transfer.** Assisted communities in their petitions for early transfer of military properties. Recommended to the Governor that he approve the early transfers of:
 - › Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Oakland
 - › Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Alameda
 - › Portions of Ft. Ord Military Reservation to the City of Marina
 - › Naval Training Center, San Diego
 - **Additional Early Transfers.** Numerous additional properties throughout the state were transferred. Specific accomplishments include transfers at:
 - › McClellan Air Force Base
 - › Mather Air Force Base
 - › Mare Island Naval Shipyard
 - › Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard
 - › Treasure Island
 - › Long Beach Naval Shipyard

- **Land Use Control Policy.** To protect future Californians from uses not contemplated at the time of transfer, instituted a land use control policy to ensure that environmental safeguards are automatically triggered should more sensitive land uses be opted for in the future.
- **Military Base Retention and Re-Use Commission.** Participated on the Governor's Military Base Retention and Re-Use Commission as well as various panels, conferences, and seminars on military base closure issues throughout California and nationally.

10. **New Cal/EPA Building.**

- **Move-in.** Approximately 3,100 Cal/EPA employees were relocated to Cal/EPA's new Headquarters Building between August and December. In addition to this coordinated, large-scale, phased move-in of the Office of the Secretary and Cal/EPA's six boards departments and offices, parking resources were allocated to staff through a lottery-based distribution process, all move-related information was distributed to staff through an Internet-based system (EPANet), and an Internet-based scheduling system was developed to manage the new buildings many conference rooms. Two of four major public art pieces were completed and installed in the building as well.
- **Orientation.** From the end of July 2000 through early December 2000, approximately 60 "New Building Orientation" sessions were conducted for all Cal/EPA staff members. These sessions were aimed at easing the transition of staff to the new office facilities. Each session was timed one to two weeks prior to each move-in phase. Orientation consisted of a professionally designed PowerPoint presentation that highlighted building floor plans, amenities and features, as well as a tour of the building.

11. **Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards.** On November 20, 2000 the annual Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards were presented to the following nine recipients:

- The Collaborative for High Performance Schools
- South Orange County Permit Consolidation Zone
- The Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
- The City of Palm Desert
- The Riverside County Integrated Project
- Nissan North America, Incorporated
- The Sentra, California Container Recycling Alliance's Optical Sort of Recycled Glass
- The Yolo Basin Foundation's Yolo Bypass Working Group
- Mr. Roger Bouddaert for Project 2000

The recognition event was held at the California State Railroad Museum, with approximately 100 people in attendance.

12. **Unified Program.**

- **CUPA Enforcement.** During the past year Cal/EPA and the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) jointly developed and delivered training to improve CUPA enforcement. The training focused on use of the administrative penalty authority available to the CUPAs in the hazardous waste program. Future training will focus on other enforcement tools. Cal/EPA and the CUPAs are working on improving enforcement consistency.
- **Data System.** Cal/EPA completed the Feasibility Study Report for the Internet-based data system that will allow for entry, modification, and retrieval of hazardous materials related data by businesses, Unified Program Agencies, and the State.

13. **California Environmental Technology Certification Program (CalCert).**

CalCert evaluates environmental technologies, equipment and processes, providing regulators, financiers and purchasers with credible information about environmental performance and benefits. During the second half of 2000, Cal/EPA issued certifications for:

- **Penetrometer.** A site characterization and analysis penetrometer system to provide near real-time field screening of volatile organic compounds in groundwater;
- **In-situ Water Sampling.** An automated, in-situ water sampling device to assess contaminant mobility across the sediment/water interface;
- **On-line Monitor.** A continuous, on-line monitor for detecting aromatic hydrocarbons in water.

Cal/EPA also formed a partnership with the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program to evaluate and certify confined animal waste treatment technologies. Currently there are approximately 100 manufacturers seeking recognition of their treatment technologies.

14. **Permit Assistance Centers.** Cal/EPA's Permit Assistance Centers continued their expanding service rate (overall a 19.38% increase in customers served over the previous year). Cal/EPA's CalGOLD business assistance Web site was also frequently visited. To further enhance the CalGOLD Web site and outreach to California's business community, Cal/EPA and California State University, Sacramento redesigned the site and created a radio public service announcement for statewide distribution.

Additionally, the CalGOLD Web site was translated into Spanish to be a more effective resource for Cal/EPA's Spanish-speaking customers. The PAC's involvement and partnership with local communities were expanded to include Pollution Prevention and local environmental health permit activities. The PAC's relationship with the California Technology Trade and Commerce Agency has continued to strengthen with the coordination and sharing of outreach and training activities.

Priorities for the First Half of 2001

1. **Strategic Vision.** Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision will be incorporated into each of Cal/EPA's Board, Department, and Office strategic planning documents to strengthen cross-media coordination and communication, and to reinforce measurable environmental results. Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision Implementation Team will oversee the implementation of Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision and collaborate in the development of each Board, Department and Office strategic plan.
2. **Children's Environmental Health Center.** In early 2001, Cal/EPA filled the position of Assistant Secretary for Children's Environmental Health. The Center's director will establish advisory committees on children's exposure and risk assessment methodology, exposures and risks in classrooms and on playgrounds, and will also focus on outreach and educational efforts. The Center's director will prepare a work plan for the preparation of legislatively mandated reports to the Governor and Legislature. The Center will also coordinate within Cal/EPA's Boards and Departments and with other state and federal agencies regarding regulatory efforts, research and data collection and availability, and other programs and services that impact the environmental health of children.
3. **CALFED.** Cal/EPA will continue to participate as a voting member of the CALFED Policy Group. As a signatory to the Record of Decision on the Programmatic EIS/EIR, Cal/EPA will focus on implementation of the Record of Decision. Cal/EPA will work with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to establish a long-term governing body for CALFED.
4. **Cal/EPA Environmental Management System Program.** In the next six months, the following activities will occur:
 - **EMS Pilot Projects.** Working group meetings soliciting input on the EMS pilot projects will continue through the spring. The first of two data updates on the results of EMS implementation will be completed early in 2001. The seven existing pilot projects are providing data to both California's and the national studies. Data is being gathered on environmental performance, regulatory compliance, pollution

prevention, stakeholder involvement, costs and benefits, and data availability. This information, and responses to the California Supplemental Data Protocol, will be used in implementing and demonstrating the requirements of AB 1102.

- **Sustainability Project.** By July, the “Sustainable Silicon Valley Project” expects to identify significant regional and statewide environmental and resource pressures, identify current and projected conditions in the identified pressure areas, target improved performance in one or more of the pressure areas, and identify regulatory barriers to enhanced environmental performance.
- **Environmental Excellence Projects.** Cal/EPA will initiate environmental excellence projects at individual facilities to test the conditions under which businesses can and will act to achieve “beyond compliance” and “significantly beyond current” environmental performance. The projects are also intended to test the willingness or ability of regulatory agencies to make procedural adjustments to facilitate the achieving of the targeted performance.

5. **Border Environmental Affairs. In the next six months, a variety of activities are planned for the border region:**

- **Strategic Plan.** Cal/EPA, in collaboration with its boards, departments, and office, will develop a strategic plan for the border region. The plan, which is due to be completed in spring of 2001, will be cross media and will involve stakeholder input.
- **California Border Environmental and Public Health Protection Fund.** Cal/EPA will develop plans to manage and implement the California Border Environmental and Public Health Protection Fund requirements set forth in Chapter 742, Statutes of 2000 (Assembly Bill 2317, Ducheny).
- **Border Governors Conference.** Cal/EPA will coordinate the development of joint declarations at this year’s conference in Tampico, Tamaulipas.
- **Tijuana River Discharges.** Four new wastewater reclamation plants will be built in 2001 in the Tijuana-Rosarito area. Two of these plants will have the potential to discharge into the Tijuana River drainage basin unless a method is designed to allow for discharge to the South Bay Ocean outfall. Cal/EPA will assist in resolving the discharge issue.
- **Diamond of Excellence Program.** In conjunction with its boards, departments and office, Cal/EPA will develop a collaborative cross-media pollution prevention program for the maquiladora industries along the border. Training modules are being developed to reduce, recycle or eliminate solvent-based processes, replacing them with

water-based processes. Surveys and mapping of the maquiladora industries will also occur.

- **Environmental Education K-12 Border Teachers Conference 2001.** In partnership with the Autonomous University of Baja California and the Secretariat of Education for the State of Baja California, Cal/EPA will carry out a three-day conference directed at K-12 schoolteachers and focusing on waste reduction, recycling and pollution prevention. The conference is to be held in Tijuana, but will be televised to the cities of Mexicali and Ensenada.
- **Border Tire Piles.** Cal/EPA will coordinate an effort to characterize the major waste tire piles that have been deposited along both sides of the border.

6. **Enforcement.**

- **Cross Media Training.** Implementation and delivery of the “Cal/EPA Academy” is planned to begin in the next 6 months, with a total of three sessions planned during 2001. Cal/EPA will obtain feedback from the participants of the first session and make necessary adjustments to subsequent sessions.
- **Cross Media Enforcement Unit.** Cal/EPA will draft protocols for the use of cross media investigation resources. Cal/EPA will also coordinate data issues with the IDEA project and any other data initiatives.
- **Unified Program.** Cal/EPA will be submitting a report to the Legislature that identifies barriers to enforcement consistency in the Unified Program and makes recommendations for improvement.

7. **Environmental Justice.**

- **Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice.** Cal/EPA expects the arrival of its new Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice, Mr. Romel Pascual from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Region 9.
- **Environmental Justice Mission Statement.** Cal/EPA will release its draft Environmental Justice Mission Statement and operating principles, seeking broad public and internal input. In addition, Cal/EPA will work with its constituent boards and departments to develop program specific plans that will govern the activities of each of these entities as they implement their regulatory programs.

8. **Military Base Remediation and Reuse.**

- **Military Base Retention and Re-Use Commission.** Cal/EPA will provide position papers to the Governor's Military Base Retention and Re-Use Commission to define significant environmental issues for the Commission to address, and recommend dividing those issues up for work on Sub-Committees to be formed within the Commission.
 - **Land Use Control Policy.** Cal/EPA will expand the concepts of land use controls to the jurisdictions of all of Cal/EPA's boards departments.
 - **Single Point of Contact.** Cal/EPA will examine how to provide a single point of contact within the Agency for internal documents, and provide a single point of contact for the Governor's office to call upon on these issues. To accomplish this, Cal/EPA will be consolidating some internal reporting requirements and working closely with the Office of Military Base Retention and Re-Use at the Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency.
9. **New Cal/EPA Building.** In the first quarter of 2001, the remaining public art pieces will be installed, the employee service areas will be open and operational, and the building's second floor will be open to the public and staff. A grand opening celebration will be scheduled in collaboration with the City of Sacramento, property management, and Cal/EPA representatives. Work will continue on the acclimation of staff to the new building in terms of improved communication, collaboration, and increased effectiveness.
 10. **Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards.** Planning for the 2001 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards program will commence in collaboration with the Governor's Office and the Resources Agency.
 11. **California Environmental Technology Certification Program (CalCert).** Cal/EPA will develop a web-based database and interface for CalCert. The Internet site will serve both infusion and diffusion functions for information on technology, allowing technology manufacturers to electronically apply to the program, and technology purchasers and regulators to search for certified technologies, performance information, and other resources.
 12. **Permit Assistance Centers.** Cal/EPA and the Permit Assistance Centers will be actively involved with the Governor's Clean Energy "Green Team" to facilitate power plant siting in California. Permit Assistance Centers staff will participate in interagency meetings and public workshops to inform power plant developers and local government personnel of permit requirements and processing methods.